

THE LITERARY GAZETTE

Journal of the Belles Lettres, Science, and Art.

No. 1916.

LONDON, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1853.

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Courses of Instruction will be given in the following departments:—

Comparative Grammar and English Language and Literature, Professor A. J. Scott, A.M., Principal.

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RICHARD POTTER, A.M., Dean of the Faculty.
CHAS. C. ATKINSON, Secretary to the Council.
October 4th, 1853.

KING'S COLLEGE, LONDON.—MINERALOGY.—Professor TENNANT, F.R.S., will commence a COURSE of SIXTEEN LECTURES on MINERALOGY, with a view to facilitate the study of GEOLOGY, and of the application of Mineral Substances in the Arts. The Lectures will be illustrated by an extensive collection of specimens, and will begin on Friday, October 7th, at Nine o'clock a.m. They will be continued on each succeeding Wednesday and Friday at the same hour. Sept. 1853. R. W. JELF, D.D., Principal.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1883.

REVIEWS.

The Journals and Correspondence of General Sir Harry Calvert, Bart., G.C.B. Comprising the Campaigns in Flanders and Holland in 1793-94. Edited by his Son, Sir Harry Verney, Bart. Hurst and Blackett.

THE campaigns in Flanders and Holland in 1793-94 form a melancholy chapter in the history of England. The expedition of the Scheldt and the siege of Dunkirk were long mentioned as signal instances of the incapacity of British troops, and brought reproach on our military name at the commencement of the revolutionary war, which was only removed slowly and gradually by the victorious career of Wellington and his army in the Peninsula. All English historians write with sorrow and shame of this period, even those who have most to say in justification of the interference of the British Government with the internal affairs of the French nation. Alison, in his 'History of Europe,' when he speaks of the siege of Dunkirk, says, "The impartial historian must confess with a sigh that British interests here interfered with the great objects of the war, and contributed to postpone for twenty years its glorious termination. Posterity has had ample room to lament the error: a war of twenty years, deeply chequered with disaster; the addition of six hundred millions to the public debt; the sacrifice of millions of brave men,—may be in a great degree traced to the unhappy resolutions of the English cabinet." When such is the language of the Tory historian, we need not be surprised at the manner in which Mr. Cobden speaks of the war of 1793 in his treatise, which Lord John Russell has endorsed with his approbation. Indeed there has been hitherto little difference of opinion, either as to the political or military errors of that unhappy time. But Sir Harry Verney, in now publishing the journals and correspondence of his father, Sir Harry Calvert, who was aide-de-camp to the Duke of York, wishes it to appear that the conduct of the British army and its commander was far more favourable than is generally supposed, and that the disastrous issue of the war arose almost entirely from political errors and intrigues:—

"From the opening of the campaign until after the route of the Camp de César, about August 13, 1793, when the allied armies divided, and the Duke of York marched towards Dunkirk, our arms met with uninterrupted prosperity. From that period, until we were driven out of Holland, during the rigorous winter of 1794-5, our occasional successes were deeply chequered by reverse. In the letters and journals contained in these pages, we may learn with equal exactness the causes of success and defeat. In driving the French out of the Low Countries, we were in reality fighting in defence of England; but through the continuance of that mercy with which Providence has for centuries past exempted England from being the seat of foreign war, the scene of action lay on the banks of the Scheldt and Sambré, and not on those of the Thames.

"So long as we were truly carrying on a defensive war, and driving the French within their own territories, our efforts were crowned with success. In these letters, a warning was given that we ought to content ourselves with this achievement; and that, having repelled the aggression of France, a 'forward movement of the allied armies was to be deprecated, as likely to unite all parties in that country; that we had accomplished our task by ensuring the safety of our own country; but that

if we converted our position from one of defence to one of aggression—if we endeavoured to invade France, and ourselves indulge a love of conquest—we should, by our own conduct, put an end to the internal divisions of the French, combine the whole nation as one man against us, and entail on ourselves all the grievous disasters which can be inflicted by a great military nation, who believe that they are struggling for existence.

"The warning was given in vain. No sooner was the war of defence converted into one of ambition, than our successes were changed into defeats. Our allies proved to be perfidious, and the great combination which had achieved such important results crumbled to pieces. The unhappy inhabitants of the Low Countries became the victims of their attachment to Austria and of their friendship for us. Within the space of eight months we sustained a series of defeats, and lost all the advantages which we had obtained by the expenditure of so much blood and treasure.

"Yet the conduct of our troops and of their General was blameless. The Duke of York never had the command of the army. The commanders were, first the Prince of Cobourg, afterwards the Emperor of Austria. The Duke's numbers were never such as to enable him to cope single-handed with the enemy. At the battle of Turcoin (May 1794), 60,000 French assailed the columns under the Duke of York and General Otto, which consisted of only 40,000, while such was the bad generalship of the allied Commander-in-chief, that 47,000 Austrian soldiers were within a day's march, but were not brought up to take part in the engagement; and after the end of May, when the Imperial Cabinet decided on relinquishing the Low Countries and their troops retired towards the Rhine, the Duke's army consisted of not more than half as many soldiers as the French, which inequality of force was increased by the diminution of his army and the augmentation of that of Pichegru, so that when forced across the Meuse and the Waal, he could not bring into the field more than a third, or even a fourth as many men as the enemy.

"Our system was entirely dependent on the co-operation of our allies. That the Duke of York and the army under his command nobly did their duty, will be proved by the facts narrated in these pages, and is abundantly testified by Hardenberg, Jomini, and others, and by the public declarations of the Commander-in-chief. That our defeats arose from our system of subsidies to foreign powers, from the baseness and treachery which pervaded their Cabinets, and from the incapacity of their generals, is the necessary inference from these MSS. And it will equally appear that our impolicy was unceasingly deprecated in the communications made from the British head-quarters, while our government received repeated warnings that, 'under Providence, England must place confidence in herself alone.'

Sir Harry Calvert seems to have kept a journal with laudable regularity, and also wrote frequent letters to friends at home, containing an account of passing events and description of the country and its people. The latter have more interest for the general reader, while the details of military operations may supply a few useful facts for professional study. But it is tedious to follow the course of campaigns which few have pleasure in recalling to memory. We give the description of one of the most stirring actions of the war, at Tournay, in May 1794:—

"May 16.—This day, General Clairfayt moved to the *chassée* between Menin and Ypres. In the evening orders were issued from his Imperial Majesty, to attack the enemy in five columns tomorrow morning; for which purpose each column will move soon after sunset this night, as far on their respective routes as their advanced post will admit. Agreeably to the Emperor's instructions, his Royal Highness's columns arrived before break of day at Templeuve.

"May 17.—The morning being hazy, it was near seven o'clock before it proceeded towards Lannoy, which was carried with little loss: four battalions being detached to observe Hem. His Royal Highness halted in front of Lannoy, till this detachment had joined; and then, leaving two battalions of Hessians in Lannoy, proceeded to the attack of Roubaix. The town was carried without much difficulty; and General Abercromby, with the advance of the column—namely, the British Guards, O'Donnell's corps, and some British light dragoons—took a position in front of it. His Royal Highness, perceiving no co-operation from the fourth column, and that his left was exposed to all the enemy's force from Lille, Flers, Hem, &c., and it being known that the attack of the first column on Mouscron had failed, and that the head of the second column was at Watrelos, and the day being far advanced, resolved to proceed no further; and after viewing the ground near Roubaix to be occupied by General Abercromby, had returned to view the ground destined for the remainder of his corps near Lannoy (which was to be his head-quarters), when an order arrived from his Majesty the Emperor, that his Royal Highness should proceed to complete the object of the instructions of the preceding night by the attack of Mouscron.

"His Royal Highness represented the state of affairs, but the order being positive, he returned to Roubaix, and ordered General Abercromby to carry his Imperial Majesty's orders into execution; in doing which, the grenadiers and light infantry of the British Guards displayed the greatest intrepidity. Supported by the 15th and 7th British Light Dragoons, they stormed, and were in complete possession of the intrenchments of Mouscron, before Colonel Congreve could possibly give them the assistance he was preparing for them by the establishment of the batteries of the British reserve artillery. The troops that had taken Mouscron, remained in that position during the night. The Brigade of the British line, which on this occasion was put under the orders of the Honourable Major-general Fox, was directed to take up a position behind Roubaix, and to observe Croix; and five battalions of Austrian infantry covered Roubaix, which was his Royal Highness's head-quarters.

"May 18.—Soon after daybreak, the enemy attacked the advanced corps of General Otto's column, which occupied a position in the rear of Roubaix, the suburbs of which town were in possession of his light troops. At about eight, the Austrians gave way, and the attack commenced on his Royal Highness's right, and at the same time, the head of the enemy's column from Lille reached the hamlet of Le Fresnoy, and by that means nearly effected a junction with the column from the Lys, and cut his Royal Highness's army. Colonel Déry had carried away two battalions, which formed his Royal Highness's reserve, to General Otto's column, and the remainder of the Austrians were evidently beaten.

"The Duke's first idea, on perceiving the disaster, was to join the Guards; but that was impossible. He then endeavoured to join the brigade of the Line, but being nearly through the town of Roubaix, he perceived the enemy in possession of the suburbs. He next made for Watrelos, expecting there to find General Otto, and from him to receive his own two battalions, and some further assistance for the relief of the Guards. The village of Watrelos was without troops, and when his Royal Highness had nearly passed through it, he was fired at by the enemy, and the officer of Hussars, who was riding by his side, fell, his horse being shot. At length, his Royal Highness arrived at Leers, where he found General Otto. The British infantry effected their retreat, but not without a considerable loss of artillery and men.

"The failure of this attack may be attributed to the little connexion between the columns, and the distance that the fifth column had to march, precluding the possibility of any connexion with the third. The order for his Royal Highness

attacking Mouvaux, under all the circumstances above stated, can only be accounted for by a determination to sacrifice the third column for the purpose of giving relief to General Clairfayt (who had been ordered to cross the Lys, and advance toward Linelles), without waiting to know what success had attended the operations of the other columns. This night the army returned to their former camp."

In the concluding portion of a letter to Sir Hew Dalrymple, dated Head-Quarters, Tournay, May 19, after giving details of the events of the two preceding days, Sir Harry remarks:—

"The conduct of the British infantry does them the greatest honour. Their retreat could not be effected without a heavy loss of men and artillery. I most sincerely hope that the heavy disaster which has fallen so undeservedly on us will be a warning to our allies; for while the same loose, unconnected, unmilitary system is persevered in, while such rashness and such childish obstinacy are the striking characteristics of their councils, nothing but loss and disgrace can attend the arms of his Imperial Majesty.

"The Emperor has done us a bit of justice, in publicly acknowledging that the Duke's column was the only one of the five that completed the service expected from them; and I believe the conduct of the British troops has excited the admiration, and perhaps jealousy, of the whole Austrian army.

"Lake continues very indifferent. Poor Ludlow is as well as can be expected after the loss of his arm, which he bore with the most heroic fortitude.

"God bless you, my dear Sir Hew. My indignation is excited to a pitch I can hardly describe, by the reflection of what we have suffered by the obstinacy, ignorance, and pride of those who take the direction of the war."

One of the most interesting passages in the book refers to the earliest recorded services of the Duke of Wellington, then Colonel Arthur Wellesley. A successful night attack was made by the enemy upon Bortel, a post occupied by our troops, and an attempt to regain it was ineffectual. The affair is thus described in the journal:—

"September 14.—In the afternoon the enemy passed the river Dommel, and attacked and carried the post of Bortel, occupied by our light troops, under General Düring. The enemy passed at Michel Gistel, and advanced towards our posts on the Aa, particularly towards Middelrode.

"September 15.—At midnight, General Abercromby marched with the reserve of the army for the purpose of proving the real force of the enemy, and of re-establishing the outposts, if possible. The General approached to within half-a-league of both the posts of Bortel and Michel Gistel; but finding the enemy advancing in great force, he retreated with his corps by Middelrode to camp. The accounts we received from deserters and prisoners, made the enemy's numbers amount to about 60,000 men; and stated that Pichegru was moving his columns towards our left, under cover of the attacks made on our outposts. Upon the assurance of this intelligence, his Royal Highness resolved on breaking up his camp, and gave the necessary orders for effecting a retreat upon Graave during the night. The army began to move in two columns, at four in the afternoon, and at nine the rear-guard, under General Abercromby, with the reserve and outposts, left the camp."

Upon which Sir Harry Verney remarks:—

"This night attack on Bortel will be recollected with interest, when it is known that the illustrious Commander, whose loss we can never cease to deplore, was then first engaged with the enemy. The editor remembers to have been told by his father, that he rode up and delivered to the Duke of Wellington his orders, the first time that the Duke went into fire, which the editor believes to

have been on this occasion. In the spring of 1850 the editor requested Lord Charles Wellesley to ask the Duke whether that was the case. The Duke replied that Lord Strafford could give more correct information on the point than any one else. Accordingly, the editor called on Lord Strafford, taking with him Sir Harry Calvert's letters of the period, and his maps, in order to recall the circumstances as minutely as he could to Lord Strafford's recollection. When he had read the letters and journal, and pointed out on the map each place mentioned, and told Lord Strafford what Sir Harry Calvert had said, his lordship replied that he recollected perfectly what took place, that the account was quite correct, and that about three weeks before the death of Sir George Murray, who was a Lieutenant in the 3rd Regiment of Guards in 1794, he and Sir George and the Duke had been talking over the events of the campaign, and that Sir George reminded the Duke of the position of the 33rd, drawn up to cover the retreat, at the end of a lane through which the Guards were retiring. The Duke was then Lieutenant-colonel Wesley, commanding the 33rd Regiment, in which Lord Strafford was a Lieutenant. The regiment had left Cork in May, and landed at Ostend, whence they joined the British army under the Duke of York.

"The retreat was effected without loss, and the next morning the whole army crossed the Meuse at Graave, except the light troops, who remained in front of the town, under the command of General Hammerstein. His Royal Highness took his quarters this night at Graave, and the army encamped nearly parallel to the river, having its right near the village of Wichem."

As a general conclusion from the review of the whole of the 'Journals and Correspondence of Colonel Calvert,' Sir Harry Verney offers the following statement:—So far as it is explanatory of the conduct of the Duke of York and of the English army it will be read with pleasure, but it removes little of the feeling of dissatisfaction with which the whole war of 1793-94 will continue to be regarded. Let us hope also that the lesson pointed out in the closing paragraph of the extract may not be lost, and that this country, should war again unhappily arise, will not waste men and resources in miserable expeditions like that of the Scheldt:—

"A careful consideration of Colonel Calvert's letters, together with the corroborating testimony contained in the 'Court and Cabinets of George III.,' and an examination of the sentiments of statesmen of various parties and opinions, and of contemporary writers abroad, will go far to convince the reader of that which has been asserted in the introductory chapter of this work to have been Sir Harry Calvert's firm opinion, that blame for the failure of the war was not to be attributed to the Duke of York or to his army.

"On December 30, 1794, Mr. Canning said: 'Most of the failures which attended us in the last campaign must be imputed to the defection of our allies, and also to the uncommon number, exertions, and irresistible force of our enemies, a force of which history has no parallel.' And Lord Auckland 'had no hesitation in attributing our present position to the disjointed, ill-combined, and discordant conduct of the Allies.'

"The Duke acted under the orders, either of the Austrian Commander-in-Chief on the spot, or of our own Cabinet in London. The army never failed in doing everything that valour and fortitude could effect. For the exercise of the higher qualities of military ability, no opportunity was given to the Duke of York. The planning of the campaign, the direction of the war, was not entrusted to him. He had only to carry out the orders given to him.

"On one occasion only did he hold an independent command.

"The siege of Dunkirk was decided on at home. In consenting to lead the expedition against that

place, the Duke of York could never have calculated that the siege train would not arrive from Woolwich in time to co-operate with his army, or that French gun-boats would be permitted to impede his operations. He could not have anticipated that his Imperial ally and commander, instead of affording him aid and co-operation, would have left him, in June and July, 1794, to defend the line of the Scheldt, and later the frontier of Holland, with forces insufficient by two-thirds for that duty, withdrawing the Austrian armies towards Maestricht and the Rhine, in the words of the Marquis of Buckingham (Weymouth, August 31, 1794), 'abandoning the Duke of York to certain ruin, if the winds and the circumstances of the country had not permitted Lord Moira's army to arrive just (and only just) in time to cover their retreat and communications.'

"The moral to be learnt from the whole story of these campaigns is the imperative necessity of wise direction and efficient support from home in all matters connected with war. Implicit reliance may be reposed on the good conduct of the army, but the *Militia Foris* is not sufficient without the *Consilium Domi*.

"This is the lesson to be repeatedly enforced in a country constitutionally governed, and where party and personal interests are so liable to interfere with the union of statesmen at home for the purpose of rendering our arms triumphant abroad. If we do but look back at our military operations during the present half-century, and consider those in which we have met with checks and reverses, we shall trace those checks, not to the misconduct of the troops, but to mistakes which might have been obviated by those who directed the war. Either the war itself ought to have been avoided, or inefficient commanders have been appointed, or due supplies were not sent. On no one occasion has the historian had to write, 'Here the army failed in doing its duty.'

"In no country more than our own is gratitude generously bestowed on those who serve us well in the field, but it is but too true that, in many instances, we have failed in giving to our armies the means of achieving success. If these letters have the effect of drawing attention to this important truth, and if causes of failure such as here portrayed are avoided in future, one main object of their publication will have been effected."

In an Appendix a number of valuable documents are published connected with national defences, drawn up in 1796, in preparation for a threatened invasion. The propriety and prudence of publishing these papers may be questioned. Although the modes of conducting the defence might be different, the descriptions of the country, and the comments of an official at the English War-Office ought scarcely to be put at the disposal of other countries without sufficient reason. But as Sir Harry Verney has published these manuscripts, they will be read with interest, greater perhaps than most readers will attach to the historical records of the first part of the volume. With minutest detail all the possible contingencies of an invasion are described, and the localities referred to in a manner edifying to the peaceful metropolitans of the present day. The account of the stations of defence between the coast and the capital thus concludes:—

"The point of Blackheath over Greenwich must be considered as the principal outwork of London. A large intrenchment should encompass it, and it should be maintained to the last extremity, which its communication with Deptford will permit.

"Shooter's Hill, Bromley, Combehurst before Croydon, a detached hill between Croydon and Streatham, and Wimbledon Hill, may be considered as the more advanced posts, and if, when the necessity may seem more apparent, they were strengthened with capacious field-works, they would give great aid to the operations of an army.

"Batteries on the Isle of Dogs would effectually protect Greenwich, Deptford, and the left of the position. Much time must have elapsed before an enemy could have arrived in its front. The powers of the capital may have been exerted in fortifying it to any required extent. The troops of the coast, those of the different districts, and those of the interior country, must have assembled round the capital, amounting to any number that might be wished for, or thought necessary. These of all descriptions would be arranged and distributed to their posts—whether firelock men, swordsmen, pikemen, or with whatever arms they might appear, for spirit and bravery will give effect to every weapon in an attack of such importance. But it would not be meant under any circumstances to confine our force within the circuit of this position. On the contrary, whatever corps or army had acted on our right, would be increased as much as possible. Its detachments would extend to the Crays and Dartford. Its general position would be considered from Beckenham to Wickham, and along the Addington Hills towards Croydon. The advantageous fall of the ground, and the large commons in that neighbourhood, of Bromley, Hayes, Addington, Croydon, Mitcham, as well as the extensive and open down country, between Croydon and Epsom, so favourable for our numerous cavalry, would make it impossible for an enemy to turn this way.

"From the south part of Norwood to Croydon is about two miles. This space offers an advantageous position, and has the open down country on its right to ensure it from being turned.

"The destination of this corps of chosen troops would, therefore, be to extend on the enemy's rear and flank, and in the nearest and most advantageous situation, to watch and circumscribe his movements, till the favourable opportunity of a general attack offered itself, in conjunction with the other parts of our great position.

"In the foregoing state of things, every possible advantage has been allowed to the enemy.

"He has been supposed landed without material loss, provided with a sufficiency of horses for some cavalry, and to transport ammunition and artillery in a considerable proportion: for seventy miles he has advanced through a most difficult country, forced the passage of a great river, kept up a communication with his point of landing, and at last with 35,000 men arrived near the capital, determined and impelled to risk everything in a last great effort.

"To effect this, he must have landed with 30,000 men and 1000 horses; by reinforcements he must have increased them with 25,000 more (for less than 20,000 could not secure the communications behind him); he must have collected at least 3000 horses in the country, a moderate number indeed for the absolute necessities of such an army; he must have been able to subsist solely on the country, which, according to our calculation, ought not to happen. This he must have done, besides incurring great risk in crossing the sea, against opposition to his descent and to his progress; against precautions taken to remove beyond his reach everything which might be useful to him (precautions above all others most important); against a force constantly accumulating, and at all times superior in cavalry and artillery, well supplied with everything from the rear, and only giving way at first in order to return and strike with more experience and vigour.

"This force, in the last stage of things, after providing for probable distant defence, and without calculating upon the numbers and assistance which in that case would issue from the capital, may be rated at 20,000, acting on the communications of the enemy, and 60,000 more immediately in their front, all good and determined men, fighting for everything they can hold honourable and dear, against an enemy whose professed design is rapine, plunder, and the ruin of their country."

The latter remarks are encouraging, and we might expect in a period of danger a display of patriotic spirit, as in the olden time was

manifested by such incidents as are recorded by Sir Harry Verney:—

"My father was one day sitting in his room at the Horse Guards, when a stranger was announced. A plain-looking old man walked in, and desired a few minutes' conversation. He said that he had eighty-five covered eight-horse waggons, with teams and drivers all complete, which he wished to place at the disposal of the Government, without any remuneration; and which, on the shortest notice, he would send anywhere, where they could be of use. My father inquired his name. 'Mr. Russell,' was the reply. Some of my elder West-country readers may recollect how Russell's well-appointed huge waggons travelled down the Bath and Exeter road before Mr. Brunel accomplished his noble undertaking towards the far west."

The introductory chapter to the history of the campaign, and the connecting remarks of Sir Harry Verney, are ably and judiciously written. Maps of the seat of war are prefixed to the volume.

The Story of Corfe Castle, and of many who have lived there. Collected from Ancient Chronicles and Records, and from Private Memoirs. By the Right Honourable George Banks, M.P. Murray.

THE story of Corfe Castle reaches back to remote times, and is connected with important events in English history. Built by the Anglo-Saxons, it is believed to have been a fortress of note in the reign of Alfred the Great, and we know that it was greatly extended and embellished in the century following, under the direction of the magnificent King Edgar. He procured workmen from Italy to assist the native masons, and it is thus that the peculiarities observable in some portion of the structure, and the perfection of its masonry, are accounted for. Edgar bequeathed the Castle as a dowry mansion to his Queen Elfrida, and it was here that she poisoned Edward the Martyr, the son of Edgar by his first marriage, in order to gain the crown for her own son Ethelred, then only seven years of age. In the weak reign of Ethelred, and his mother's regency, the piratical Danes again overran England, from which the energy of Edgar had long repelled them. Corfe Castle was too strong to be taken, but of the whole of the county of Dorsetshire they kept possession, till the memorable massacre of the Danes, which was planned by Ethelred and his counsellors:—

"During the various revolutions which ensued upon the suppression of the Anglo-Saxon dynasty, Corfe Castle followed the fortunes of the English crown, and was held from the time of the Norman Conquest, as a royal castle, by some great baron of the victorious race. When Stephen usurped the crown, December 22, 1136, it became at once evident that a serious civil war would ensue, and that the strong castles throughout the kingdom would exercise a great influence in deciding the issue of the quarrel. The beginning of the reign was peaceable, but this tranquillity lasted not long. The subjects, grown insolent, set too high a value on the service they had done the king. There were some also who, being forced to comply with the sentiments of the majority, were waiting for an opportunity to take away the reproach the nation lay under, for the breach of the oath solemnly given in favour of Matilda, the daughter of the late king. Stephen, who was not ignorant how matters stood, did all he could to gain the affections of all ranks in the state. With this view it was that he conferred titles and honours on several persons, and alienated abundance of the crown lands to such as might be serviceable to him. But this lavish bounty had not the effect he proposed. Those that partook of his favours

considered them as their due reward, whilst others who received them not, entertained a jealousy which proved most injurious to his cause. His greatest oversight was suffering the barons, the wealthy clergy also, to fortify their castles, which put it in their power to revolt whenever they pleased. The bishops, earls, and barons at this time coined their own money in their castles, and exercised therein every right of sovereignty, extending to complete despotism.

"Stephen at last found himself under the necessity of besieging some of the castles. The castle at Devizes he took: he also forced the castle of Wareham to surrender: but he was baffled in an attack upon Corfe Castle, which was a fortress of such strength, that until the invention of gunpowder, it could be taken by no other means than by treachery of the garrison."

At the close of the civil war in 1153, Corfe Castle, which had stood out against the usurper, acknowledged the authority of Henry Plantagenet:—

"During the eventful reign of the tyrannical John, Corfe Castle became again a royal residence: that king deposited within its walls his treasure and regalia, using it also for the confinement of state prisoners, the objects of his jealousy and revenge. In the year 1202 he took prisoners at the castle of Mirabel in Poitou the youthful Arthur Duke of Brittany, his nephew, and at the same time captured many barons, and above two hundred knights of Poitou and Guienne, who were in arms with that prince. These were all loaded with irons, and sent to different prisons in Normandy and England. Many of these prisoners were so cruelly treated that they perished in their confinement; and no fewer than twenty-two of the noblest and bravest of them were starved to death in Corfe Castle."

Passing over the subsequent history of the fortress till the days of Elizabeth, we find that it was granted to her courtly favourite, Sir Christopher Hatton. He repaired the fortifications, and embellished the place at great expense. When the Spanish invasion was dreaded cannon were for the first time mounted, and the fort and borough received privileges the same as the Cinque Ports, including the right of returning two members to parliament. The story then is mingled up with that of the families of Hatton, and of Lord Chief Justice Coke. Mr. Banks gives a long account of the strange life of Lady Elizabeth Hatton, and of others who occupy a prominent place in the annals of that period. In the time of the civil wars the Castle assumed greater national importance. It was at this time the property of Sir John Banks, Attorney-General, who purchased it from the widow of Sir Edward Coke, and his daughter, Lady Purbeck. The defence of the fortress by Lady Banks, in her husband's absence, was one of the brilliant Royalist feats of the civil war. After holding out for three years, a second siege reduced the place under the power of the parliamentary army. To Cromwell Mr. Banks gives honourable testimony in recording his restoration of the property to its gallant defender:—

"With Cromwell's accession to power the respect for equity and justice was in some measure restored, and Cromwell's judicial appointments were in general above all exception. The widowed heroine of the castle was no longer persecuted for her bravery; the attachment which bound Cromwell with warm affection to his daughters, gave him a charitable disposition towards all who were of their sex. Large compositions being paid for herself and her children, Lady Banks was now permitted to receive the annual amount of her jointure, and although claims upon her were from time to time brought forward in the legal tribunals, of which records remain, she was not in any

serious degree molested during the remainder of the period of the Commonwealth. She lived long enough to see the restoration of the monarchy, but died within a twelvemonth from the accomplishment of that desired event."

There is not much in the subsequent history of the Castle of public interest, but the descriptions of its appearance at various times and of its present condition render the volume a valuable hand-book to the locality. After a detailed account of the ruins, the author observes:—

"Rambles amongst the ruins may here choose their place of accommodation for repose, secure of shade and shelter; and with this little volume in their hands they may think of the royal persons who have lived here, sometimes in majesty and sometimes in thralldom; of princes and peers who have here flourished and have faded; lastly, of a private family forced into historic notice by the miserable distractions of the time in which they lived, who, when driven from these walls, have left here a record of constancy, enduring to the last in behalf of a cause which they had espoused, and believed to be the right one.

"The day-dreams of a summer's noon will here find suitable accompaniments for their indulgence: and before we complete the survey of the summit, a passing thought may be bestowed on the mode of life and daily employments of the last inmates of the castle.

"Wardrobes, trunks, boxes, all filled with household linen: stores of embroidered counterpoints, bed-furniture, and christening-ropes, will sufficiently answer a question which may very naturally occur to the minds of young ladies of the present time, with regard to the possibility of getting through the heavy hours of many a wintry day in a castle such as this when in a state of siege; no novels, no newspapers, no friendly visitor permitted to drop in; he must come in armour who shall come at all, and is liable to pay for his courtesy by imprisonment, with ransom or death.

"The happy resources of female industry ceased, however, time to pass with feathered footsteps in my lady's chamber, where, amidst her daughters, she plied the ready needle with little cessation throughout the year.

"And in a chamber close beside
Her faithful maidens did abide,
In petticoats of stammet red,
And milk-white kerchiefs on their head;
Their smock sleeves like to winter's snow
That on the western mountains flow,
And each sleeve with a silken band
Was fairly tied at the hand;
Which pretty maids did never lin,
But in that place all day did spin," &c."

BEN JONSON.

"In addition to inmates such as these, there was in an adjacent part a well-filled nursery in this beleaguered fortress; and some may imagine that the good old nurse had a sorry time of it, presiding over a set of juvenile heroes and heroines, who had thrice defeated the rebels by their own prowess, and were in daily expectation of a renewal of the like animating diversion."

The history concludes with references to the threatened invasion of the coast by the French, under the great Napoleon, and among some letters relating to that period the following illustrates the general alarm that prevailed, and the full expectation of a landing being effected. It is from the Earl of Dorchester, then Lord-Lieutenant of the county of Dorset, to Henry Bankes, Esq., then member for Corfe Castle:—

"Milton Abbey, Blandford, October 12th, 1803.

"My dear Bankes,—The spring-tides take place next Saturday, and the information to Government is so precise that the Isle of Wight is the enemy's object, that it is not improbable they may avail themselves of this ensuing spring-tide; if they do not, their attempt must be postponed another month. Under these circumstances, I

would not fail of giving you this notice in confidence that you will keep it to yourself, and only so far prepare Mrs. Bankes and your family as to be able to remove them upon the first intelligence of the enemy's being off the coast. I have to beg of you that you will give directions for an assemblage of fagots, furze, and other fuel, also of straw to be stacked and piled on the summit of Badbury Rings, so as the whole may take fire instantly, and the fire be maintained for two hours. The general direction, if you will take the trouble of ordering the execution, is that this beacon may be fired whenever the beacon off St. Catharine's (Christ Church) is fired to the eastward, or whenever the beacons on Lytchet Heath or Woodbury Hill are fired to the westward, but not from the demonstration of any coast signal.—I am, my dear Bankes, yours most sincerely,

"DORCHESTER."

Intended at first merely to provide materials for a lecture for members of a Society in the borough of Corfe Castle, of which Mr. Bankes is the patron, the book has grown to a goodly size in the compilation. It was difficult to avoid some notice of the general history of the times under consideration, and it was natural to enlarge on events with which the name of the author's family is honourably connected.

Dr. Grant and the Mountain Nestorians. By the Rev. Thomas Laurie, Surviving Associate of that Mission. With Portrait, Map, and Illustrations. Tribner and Co.

THIS volume contains the biography of Dr. Grant, a devoted medical missionary, and of his associates in the Christian mission from the United States to Western Asia. The American Board of Foreign Missions have judiciously made much use of the medical art as a means for gaining access to the people among whom they desire to spread the doctrines and morals of Christianity. In the time of the first preaching of the gospel by the apostles and primitive Christians, the labours of the physician and the preacher were united, and miraculous gifts of healing gained favour for those who brought spiritual blessings as well as bodily cures. Now that the spread of Christianity is left to the ordinary agency of natural efforts, it is wise still to combine medical aid with religious instruction. The high respect paid to physicians in Eastern countries secures for able and benevolent medical missionaries peculiar advantages. In China by Dr. Macgowan, and in Kurdistan by Dr. Grant, the efficacy of this system of missions has been amply illustrated. Other countries have followed the Americans in this field of labour, and there are now, in various parts of the world, medical missions supported by the liberality of associated Christians in England. Of the medical Christian missionary, Dr. Asahel Grant was an exemplary specimen. A man of solid learning and professional skill, he volunteered to devote his abilities to the evangelization of distant lands. The mountain districts of Western Asia were chosen as the scene of his labours. Of the narrative portion of the memoir by Mr. Laurie, we give the following extract as a specimen:—

"On the morning of Oct. 7 Dr. Grant left Mosul for the unexplored regions of Kurdistan, accompanied by two Nestorians from Persia, a Kurdish muleteer and a *kavass* (police-officer), from the Pasha. Leaving the gate, he passed at once on to the bridge of twenty-one boats that here spans the Tigris, crowded with men and animals in picturesque confusion. This passed, he stood amid the ruins

of Nineveh, now waste and desolate. Black Arab tents occupied the place of her palaces, and some of their women were weaving sackcloth, as if for the mourning attire of her 'whose merchants were multiplied above the stars of heaven.' On one of the ancient mounds stands the modern village of Nebby Yūnas (the Prophet Jonah), and under the mosque they pretend to show his tomb.

"Four hours' ride brings him to Baasheka, a large village of the Yezidees. Extensive olive-groves impart a cheerful aspect to the scene, and several tombs of their Sheikhs attract his attention as he approaches. These are cubical structures, surmounted by fluted cones, that rise to the height of about twenty feet. They are built of stone and lime, plastered on the outside, and present a neat appearance among the rough, flat-roofed houses of the village. His welcome into one of the latter was not the most cordial; but the kavass at once understood the trouble, and removed it. Dr. Grant had been mistaken for a Moslem, and as soon as the host was enlightened on that matter he welcomed him with alacrity; for Yezidees like Christians much better than they do their Mohammedan neighbours.

"Two hours' ride to the north-east brought him in sight of the ruined convent of Mar Mattai (St. Matthew), founded 334 A.D., in the days of Sapor, and containing the tomb of the celebrated Abulfaraj, whom even Gibbon styles 'eminent, both in his life and death.' In his life, as an elegant writer of both Syriac and Arabic, a poet, physician, and historian, a subtle philosopher and a moderate divine; in his death, as his funeral was attended by his rival, the Nestorian Patriarch, with a train of Greeks and Armenians, who forgot their disputes, and mingled their tears over the grave of an enemy. It stands high up on the south-western acclivity of Jebel Maklūb. For some time before reaching the feet of the mountain, one wonders how he is to climb the rock before him. It rises with so steep and uniform a slope as seems, at least, to forbid all approach on horseback. The hollows in the side of the mountain look as if a huge knife had been inserted at the top and drawn downwards, the incision deepening and spreading as it went. The convent is perched upon a narrow ridge between two of these, about half-way up, and at a distance seems inaccessible; but, once under it, all is explained,—a zig-zag path, partly cut in the rock, partly built against the sloping sides, leads up to the very door. The steepness of the ascent may appear from the fact that lumps of stone and mortar, from the ruined walls, have rolled to the bottom of the hill, though a horse descending rapidly needs some twenty minutes to follow down the road. The buildings are large and irregular, comprising two churches and several edifices, with courts, besides many cells cut in the living rock. When Dr. Grant was there they were deserted, owing to the ravages of the Ravendooz Kurds, who plundered the convent and killed several of the monks seven years before. They have since been repaired, and occupied by a bishop and monks; but how changed from the populous structure of former days, that justified the boastful inscription on its walls of 'Dairo Alephoyo'! (Monastery of Thousands).

"In the hollow beyond the convent is a cave at the very apex of the valley. A semicircular wall of rock, rising high above it and sweeping far round on either side, leaves hardly room for the path that leads up to it; but, once there, you are abundantly rewarded for all your toil. Behind you is an inner chamber, in which the water falls, drop by drop, into a crystalline pool below, and passes noiselessly into a basin at your side, so clear that the rays of the sun do not reveal a single mote in its pellucid depths. Lying there in the cool shade of the rock, and looking out under the large trees directly before the cave, your eye overlooks the lower ridge, between you and Baasheka, and ranges over the vast plain of Assyria, across the Tigris, and far into Mesopotamia. You gaze on a scene at once classical and sacred. There Nimrod, Sardanapalus, and Sennacherib, lived and reigned. Xenophon and his ten thousand men once crossed that plain;

and so did Alexander. Romans and Saracens in turn have marched their armies there. Over the Tigris, at Mosul, Tamerlane built a bridge, across which his hordes passed continuously for seven days. And yet this place, so lovely in itself, and so suggestive of great thoughts, is the summer resort of the Jacobites of Mosul, to drink and carouse. Their bottles of arrack lie in the crystal pool, and these rocky walls re-echo their bacchanalian revelry.

"While Dr. Grant visited these places his attendants had gone on, and he overtook them, just at dusk, in the Yezidee village of Mohammed Ravsham. Here his accommodations were so wretched that, to avoid the vermin in the houses, he spread his carpet out of doors; and, after a social chat over some yogboort (sour milk) and herbs boiled together,—all that the village could afford,—he lay down to sleep in the open air. Fortunately a shower of rain disturbed him in time to recover his horse just as robbers were leading him away.

"Next morning he mounted at dawn, and entered a broad, level plain, watered by the Hazir and its tributaries. This is the Bumadus, on whose banks was fought the famous battle between Alexander and Darius."

Of Dr. Grant's energetic and benevolent labours among the scenes such as are here described, the book gives an interesting account. While the personal character and the proceedings of the missionary are displayed, there are many valuable notices of the countries and their inhabitants. The biographer, after recording his death from fever, in April 1843, refers to him in these honourable terms:—

"The Kurds will never forget the man who kept his word, and went about doing good to friend and foe; and when future missionaries seek to lead them also to Jesus, his memory will prepare the way before them, and lend force to each exposition of the glorious gospel of the blessed God. His kind feelings towards them were thus expressed, in a letter to Dr. Anderson, a few weeks before his death: 'For the poor benighted Kurds, whom God has employed as his chastening rod, let our prayers arise, for they know not what they do.' Like persecuting Saul, they think, in their delusion, that they are doing God service."

"The Nestorians will never forget him. For his sake they have welcomed other missionaries, notwithstanding the rage of their own Patriarch. His name will not soon perish from their traditions. The story of what Dr. Grant dared and endured in their mountain home shall nerve Nestorian missionaries, in future ages, to be faithful unto death. The sands and snows of Tartary did not intimidate their ancestors. From China to Abyssinia, and from Siberia to Malabar, they were in labours abundant. They roved with wandering tribes, and settled down in the cities. All Asia witnessed their zeal; all classes enjoyed the benefits of their labours. Dr. Grant, in this generation, stands like a beacon on their own mountains, to point them to these worthy deeds of other days, and remind them that they too may emulate their ancestors, in more favourable circumstances, and with more permanent success."

Mr. Layard, whose researches were carried on near the scenes of Dr. Grant's labours, wrote to Mr. Laurie the following letter, dated Oct. 13th, 1852:—

"I am glad to hear that you are preparing a memoir of Dr. Grant, whose memory, as a sincere and devoted Christian, a zealous and enterprising missionary, and a most amiable man, ought, by all means, to be perpetuated among his countrymen. It would be difficult for me, at this distance of time, to note the actual expressions used, with reference to him, by those who knew him in the East. I have heard Mussulmans bear witness to his charitable and truly liberal character, which led him to extend the benefit of his skill to all,

without reference to sect, or prospect of reward; and I have frequently heard him designated, both by Kurds of the wild districts of the mountains, and by Mohammedans of Mosul, as 'the good doctor.' You know, far better than I do, his unremitting attentions to the poor Nestorians during their misfortunes. It would be truly extraordinary if, notwithstanding the general absence of gratitude in the East, they were ungrateful to him. I have always heard him spoken of by the Christians of Tyary, as well as by those of Mosul, in the most affectionate terms. But perhaps the best evidence that could be adduced of his high and amiable qualities is the general respect with which he was regarded by Europeans of all classes and religious opinions, during a time when, as you are well aware, there was, unfortunately, no very Christian or charitable feeling abroad. Mr. Dotta, with whom I was all that time in constant correspondence, continually wrote of Dr. Grant as of a man who, by his liberal and truly Christian conduct, was an honour to the Redeemer. Even those gentlemen who were most opposed to his mission, and did their utmost to thwart his success,—using, it must be confessed, not very scrupulous means,—were glad to avail themselves of his aid and experience, and have borne a high testimony to his character."

The memoir of Dr. Grant is a valuable piece of Christian biography, and contains much interesting information as to the condition of the Eastern countries, to which increasing attention is being directed.

History of Scotland, from the Revolution to the last Jacobite Insurrection, 1689-1748.

By John Hill Burton. Longman and Co.

MR. BURTON'S work includes that portion of Scottish history which has most interest for English readers. The deposition of James II., the legislative union of the two kingdoms, the struggles of the Jacobites, and the rebellions of 1715 and 1745, are the great events that mark the period. The narrative commences with the declaration of the throne being vacant by the Convention of Estates on the 4th April, 1689. On the 11th of April the Estates adopted a 'Claim of Rights,' passing it along with an offer of the Crown to William and Mary. The Revolution was in both countries brought to the same issue, but in a strikingly different manner. The English Parliament maintained long and hesitating deliberations, anxious to avoid any step not sanctioned by historical precedent, and, in at length declaring that James II. had abdicated the throne, "they contradicted in words the great act in which they were engaged." The Scottish Convention, less accustomed to established forms, and representing institutions less definite and orderly, proceeded at once to declare that the Stuarts had forfeited the regal power. While the English Parliament arrived at their conclusion after many debates and divisions, it was unanimously voted by the Scottish Estates that "King James the Seventh hath forfeited the right to the crown, and the throne is become vacant." But even had there been a desire for more deliberation, any delay might have been dangerous. "No man," says Mr. Burton, "deliberating and voting in the Convention, could say in how many hours or minutes he might have to fight an equal enemy, or flee before an overwhelming force. It was a time for immediate and stern action rather than debate." The Parliament House was commanded by the guns of the Castle, which held out for the Stuart king, and the armed troopers of Dundee were in the streets.

"At one juncture of their proceedings, it was announced to them that the formidable Dundee,

who had just abruptly and angrily left their Convention, was seen by the citizens to ride at the head of a body of horse along the road corresponding with the southern front of the new town of Edinburgh, and alighting, to scramble up the western face of the Castle rock, and hold conference at a postern with the governor of the fortress. The scene caused general excitement and confusion without. Of its influence within, we are told that the doors of the Parliament House were locked, on the plea of preventing a treacherous minority from communicating with armed accomplices without. And thus the representatives proceeded with the business of the nation, uncertain whether the tumultuous sounds, which from time to time penetrated to their conclave, might not indicate that the matters before them were more sharply and rapidly settled elsewhere. It was in the midst of such exciting elements that this Convention went through its legislative duties, and it is wonderful that they were so well done."

The exploits of Dundee, and the estimate of his character, as given in Mr. Burton's history, are very different from what they appear in the romances of Sir Walter Scott and the ballads of Professor Aytoun:—

"Many of the attributes of this hero-fiend are fabulous; but his era was so much later than that of the semi-mythic heroes with whom he is often associated, that we know a few vulgar truths about him, affording a correction of the fictitious glories."

"Tradition attributes to him many brilliantly epigrammatic speeches, to which his authentic writings give the lie, by showing that he had not sufficient command of grammar to have put his thoughts in the clear emphatic shape in which they are preserved, if he had ever formed them in his mind. It is said that he studied at St. Andrew's, and knew something of mathematics; but any smattering of education he may have received was early rubbed out in the camp of the mercenary soldier. He was a younger son of a Scottish laird, and, according to a common usage in a country which could not exercise its energies near at hand without arousing the trading jealousies of its affluent and powerful neighbour, he was sent to serve abroad. He fought in the French service and in the Dutch; probably both were much alike to him, until he rose high enough to see schemes of personal ambition over the shoulders of his comrades. * * *

"Graham's abilities evidently did not step beyond warfare. We have no means of deciding whether they were capacious enough for great military operations, but all can see that he executed the small affairs falling to his lot with consummate skill. He might have been, for all we know, a poor organiser of such campaigns as Marlborough's, and incapable of the anxious calculations in which the governor of one of the great Vauban fortresses had daily to work. One thing is certain, that his utter disregard of human life—his cruelty to his enemies, and his recklessness of the safety of his followers, would have prevented him from being a great British general, however largely he might have operated in the service of countries where there is less responsibility, and human life is of no account beside the military object to be attained. But, however he may have borne comparison with the great leaders of European warfare, he had a genius for small partisan operations which laughed to scorn the drudges brought up in their pedantic school. When he saw them in isolated independent contests with enemies of a new kind,—on unusual ground, and where both sides might be subject to influences totally different from those of the mercenary continental campaigner, still following the clock-work routine which long service had mechanically trained them to,—he was too much of an original thinker to follow them. Whatever respect he might have had for the rules of a cepted military discipline in armies where they were known and used, it was his merit that he rejected them when they were useless or offensive, and at once adapted his method of warfare to the men he had to lead. It is impossible to look at the por-

trait of the lively, haughty, impetuous, handsome cavalier, beside that of his opponent, old Mackay of Scourie, without being reminded of the venerable pedantic authority so excellent in its accustomed place, and in the pursuit of its daily routine, but so liable to be overwhelmed in ruin when, in the moment of excitement and emergency, it meets with originality of conception and fierce, reckless determination of purpose."

Though Mr. Burton's whole description of Graham is awkwardly written, there is no doubt that he gives the true account of the man, and the facts of history amply explain the deep traditional feeling of execration with which the name of bloody Claverhouse is still spoken of throughout Scotland.

There are various passages in the history of King William's reign which we should like to quote, as the battle of Killiecrankie, the massacre of Glencoe, the siege of the Bass Rock, which held out for James II. till April 1694, the Darien scheme, and the account of the state of political and ecclesiastical affairs on the accession of Queen Anne, but we pass on to the subject of the Union, about which we are likely to hear much for some time to come. The National Association for the redress of Scottish Grievances have announced a public meeting at Edinburgh, in November, the Earl of Eglinton to preside, and there will doubtless be many references to the Treaty of Union, and its alleged infractions. Some of Mr. Burton's statements concerning this period of Scottish history may be interesting to our readers. He gives a more complete account of the whole transaction than is to be found in any other historical work. The proceedings of the Board of Commissioners for the two countries, by whom the treaty was prepared, are reported at great length, from the first meeting at Whitehall, on the 16th April, 1706, to the 23rd of July, when the articles were signed by twenty-seven of the English commissioners, and twenty-six of the Scotch, out of thirty-one originally appointed on either side:—

"Not the least important portions of the treaty, as it was ultimately drawn out, make little appearance in the minutes, from their relating to matters left untouched. Scotland was to preserve her local institutions, her courts of justice, and her law—the church was specially excluded from the matters coming under the notice of the board. When not only the laws, but the method of their administration, remained untouched, an element of disorganisation was left, which subsequently caused serious difficulties, and much disquiet. It had long been established in England that virtually all judicial offices were in the hands of the crown, which, through responsible ministers, appointed responsible judges. In Scotland, where feudality had kept more of its early ground, there were a set of local jurisdictions still hereditary or proprietary. In other words, the judicial power was held, not by one who was, or was supposed to be, capable of exercising it for the public good, and responsible to the country, through Parliament, for so exercising it, but by one who possessed it as patrimonial property. In no other nation had signorial privileges been so early and effectually subjected to the crown, acting for the people, as in England. The English commissioners must have felt how greatly the public of Scotland would profit by a communication to them of the English system of responsibility—how dangerous a neighbour Scotland must be while her gentry possessed judicial authority for the enforcement of military leadership. But they knew well that here were embarked the keenest interests and prejudices of the class with whom they had to deal. Possibly, also, they reflected that the Scottish common people, who would be the main gainers by the suppression of the feudal jurisdic-

tions, unable to see the value of the boon, might easily be taught to treat it as an additional national insult—a ruthless effacement of their dearly-cherished and long-loved national institutions. It was not until the statesmen both of England and Scotland were frightened and incensed by the mischievous use of these institutions, that they were swept away in a moment of victorious power and indignation. It even facilitated this change, that they were preserved by the Union as 'rights of property,' and thus, instead of being nationally reserved to Scotland, were privately reserved to individual inhabitants, who, according to parliamentary rule, were afterwards obliged to part with them at the price assigned by the legislature. While the hereditary jurisdictions were thus indefinitely preserved, the Privy Council of Scotland was allowed a temporary existence, until the united Parliament might think fit to supersede it.

"Although the opponents of alterations in the law of Scotland have ever been in the habit of denouncing them as breaches of the Union, it is observable that the question of limitation in this department appears to have excited very slight discussion at the board. It was evidently a matter on which little could be said or done, productive of satisfaction. Those who were practically arranging the treaty felt that it would be preposterous to tie up a supreme legislature, understood to have the welfare of the whole island in view, against making alterations on the law and practice of Scotland, as the progress of civilization and jurisprudential science might suggest them. At the same time it was well to record for Scotland a protest against wanton innovations, for the sake of mere conformity with England. Care was taken to exclude the jurisdiction and authority of the English courts of law within the bounds of Scotland. A distinction was then taken between the public policy of the united kingdom, and the law of private rights; and it was arranged that in future proceedings, 'the laws which concern public right, policy, and civil government, may be made the same throughout the whole united kingdom; but that no alteration be made in laws which concern private right, except for evident utility of the subjects within Scotland.' What might be of evident utility was open to question, and few changes could be made on which opinions would not differ. There was no prejudging such matters, or leaving them otherwise than to the supreme determination of Parliament. But it was laid down as a principle, which, like other guiding principles, has been pretty well adhered to, that mere uniformity with English practice, unless it be a beneficial uniformity, is not a sound reason for an alteration of the Scottish practices."

On the 6th of March, 1707, the Act of Union received the royal assent, and the first united parliament met on the 1st of May of the same year:—

"The latest parliamentary contest in which Scottish interests came prominently forward, appeared to involve no less a result than the dissolution of the Union. But this, advocated though it was by those in whose honesty and worth the best of Scotsmen placed a high reliance, can only have been intended as a startling method of showing that Scotland did not receive that consideration from the British Parliament which she ought to receive. The source of this movement was of a kind which, however insignificant it seems in detail, is ever large and formidable in its collective operation—the imposition of a tax of 6d. per bushel on malt. It was maintained that the tax would not only be oppressive to Scotland, but would introduce new fiscal outrages on the habits of the country, in addition to those already inflicted; while an effort was made to show that it infringed the Union, founded on an equivocal condition in the fourteenth article of the treaty, that Scotland should not be subject to a malt-tax during the existing war. A sort of compromising view was thrown out from the ministerial bench, that though it was necessary on principle to bring Scotland under the tax, that part of the empire might be

passed over in its collection; and, indeed, this was the policy afterwards followed, so that the contest did not pass northwards until the duty was partially enforced ten years afterwards. In the meantime, however, the Scottish members fought the battle of exemption vigorously in Parliament, and were angry in their defeat, for the third reading was carried by 197 to 52.

"Being a supply bill, it was not to be directly fought in the House of Lords, but its justice was debated under a motion by Lord Findlater, on a bill to dissolve the Union, brought in after several meetings of the Scottish members had been held. Its most marked supporters were the Duke of Argyle and his brother Lord Hay; and as no men were more zealous for a united government under the House of Hanover, it is not unlikely that they expected, in the heat of this contest, to bring out some of the views of the Jacobite party. Indeed, a few references made by Argyle to the exiled house, were evidently directed to some other object than the question before the house. The usual argument, which will ever be used against dissolving legislative unions, was employed on this occasion. The thing, if desirable, was impracticable. The country might be broken in two; but the original elements, which had come together, could no more be disintegrated and separated into their original parts by an Act of Parliament, than elements in chemical combination could be dissolved by manipulation. The house did not, however, muster largely on the occasion, and the most remarkable feature in the contest was the closeness of the division. In fact, the numbers present were equal—54 on either side; and the motion was lost by a majority of 3 on the proxies, which stood 13 for repealing the Union, and 17 against it."

In Scotland, ecclesiastical questions have always largely mingled with public affairs, and the historian has to devote much space to the affairs of the Kirk. Mr. Burton's statements on this difficult subject are marked by much liberality and candour, and on this account are little likely to please the zealous advocates of any ecclesiastical party.

The second volume is chiefly occupied with the story of the Jacobite insurrections, and the account of the measures taken after Culloden to reduce to subjection and to civilize the Highland districts. These events are familiar to the readers of English history, and we pass them to present a concluding extract, wherein a general view is given of the state of literature and science in Scotland in the middle of the eighteenth century:—

"The development of pure literature in Scotland had, for half a century after the Revolution, to struggle with a peculiar difficulty arising out of the tenor of the national history. The languages of England and of Lowland Scotland, speaking of both in a general sense, were as entirely taken from a northern Teutonic stock common to both, as the languages of Essex and Yorkshire. Like other national characteristics, the language of Scotland took a direction severing itself from that of England after the war of independence. Centuries elapsed, however, ere the distinctive peculiarities of each had gone far in its own direction, and away from the other. The earliest material change was in the language of England by the infusion of the Norman, while Scotland kept closer to the old Saxon stock. Thus it is that Scottish writers of the age of Gower and Chaucer,—such as Barbour, the Archdeacon of Aberdeen, and Wyntoun, the Monk of Lochleven—wrote a language more intelligible to the present age than that of their English contemporaries, because it is not so sensibly tinged with Gallicisms."

After referring to the works of Allan Ramsay, James Thomson, Hamilton of Bangour, the Jacobite poet, and a few others, whose names occur in the annals of the first half of the eighteenth century,—the barrenness of

literature is ascribed to the influence of ecclesiastical affairs, which absorbed the attention of learned men,—Mr. Burton continues:—

"In the graver departments of intellectual greatness, Scotland was not more fortunate. Whatever was achieved by her sons, seemed not to be destined for their native land. Among scientific men, the two Keils—the one eminent in anatomy, the other in mathematics—followed their friend Gregory to England. Thither, too, to reap the rewards of their science, went two of the most eccentric men of genius in their day—Cheyne and Arbuthnot; but the fame of the latter was destined to be of another kind. After Sir Robert Sibbald, an antiquary and naturalist of moderate abilities, died, about the year 1712, science in Scotland was solely represented by MacLaurin the mathematician, Alston the botanist, and Monro the anatomist, who founded the medical school which, in the succeeding generation, became so famous. Scholarship had an exception to the general barrenness in Ruddiman, who printed such editions of the classics as Scottish publishers do not undertake in the present day, and the Foulises became distinguished in the still more bleak intellectual atmosphere of Glasgow, by beginning to publish their series of accurate and beautiful contributions to Greek and Roman literature.

"In other branches of literature in which Scotland afterwards reaped so much renown, there is little to say properly applicable to this period. The first historical writer living in Scotland was Thomas Blackwell, the imitator of Shaftesbury. Two large books of history and biography were produced. 'The Martial Achievements of the Scots Nation,' by Patrick Abercromby, in two volumes folio; and 'The Lives and Characters of the most Eminent Writers of the Scots Nation,' by Dr. George MacKenzie, in three. These books, as patriotic works, took a prominent place on the shelves of those who could afford to have libraries; but it would be difficult to say which of them contains the larger number of foolish falsehoods, and shows the greater evidence of gross ignorance. The principles of historical literature were no better understood then in Edinburgh than they were when Fordun wrote his chronicle, nearly four centuries earlier. Sir George MacKenzie, who died just after the opening period of this sketch, defended all the national fables with professional zeal, and intimated to an English antiquary, who doubted their truth, that had the doubt been expressed in Scotland, he might as a law officer of the crown have instituted proceedings against the author.

* * * *

"There would be little satisfaction in contemplating a period of so much national intellectual obscurity, were it not that, through all this darkness, we know that the element of light existed, and was soon to rise and shine. Indeed, within the period here embraced, and before the material resuscitation of the country was fairly begun, the dawn of intellectual revival was visible. Hume had, as yet unnoticed, published the philosophical work which was destined to arouse the thinking powers of his countrymen, and produce, partly by stimulative, partly by re-active influence, the remarkable school of the Scottish metaphysicians. Lord Kames, a genius of a lower grade, but who would have been eminent in the preceding generation, had already published some of his works. Hunter, Burnet of Monboddo, Thomas Reid, George Campbell, Robert Henry, Hugh Blair, John Home, Adam Ferguson, Joseph Black, and William Robertson, were all, in the strong vigour of their early manhood, starting together; and Adam Smith was pondering the new philosophy which was to supersede old opinions on the elements of material well-being, simplify a large department of the science of statesmanship, and engraft a great new element into the political science by which mankind are governed."

Mr. Burton's style is deficient in vigour and elegance, but his work is to be praised for laborious research and accurate information.

The Homes of the New World: Impressions of America. By Fredrika Bremer. Translated by Mary Howitt. Arthur Hall, Virtue, and Co.

[Second Notice.]

WE must make room for one or two more extracts from Miss Bremer's delightful letters from America. When we inform our readers that they fill three volumes of nearly fourteen hundred pages, it will be understood how slightly we have dipped into them. They are all pervaded with the same kindly feelings and zest for observation that we noticed last week, and describe most agreeably an immense variety of scenes, incidents, and character. The authoress first meets with Indians during a voyage on the Mississippi:—

"Last evening, just at sunset, I saw the first trace of the Indians in an Indian grave. It was a chest of bark laid upon a couple of planks supported by four posts, standing underneath a tree golden with autumnal tints. It is thus that the Indians dispose of their dead, till the flesh is dried off the bones, when these are interred either in the earth or in caves, with funeral rites, dances, and songs. Thus, a coffin beneath an autumnal tree, in the light of the pale evening sun, was the first token which I perceived of this poor, decaying people.

"Soon after we saw Indian huts on the banks of the river. They are called by themselves 'tepees' (dwellings), and by the English 'lodges'; they resemble a tent in form, and are covered with buffalo-hides, which are wrapped round long stakes, planted in the ground in a circle, and united at the top, where the smoke passes out through an opening, something like our Laplanders' huts, only on a larger scale. There is a low opening in the form of a door to each hut, and over which a piece of buffalo-hide can be let down at pleasure. I saw, through the open doors, the fire burning on the floor in many of the huts; it had a pleasant, kindly appearance. Little savage children were leaping about the shore. It was the most beautiful moonlight evening.

"17th.—Sunshiny, but cold. We have Indian territory through the whole of our course on the right; it is the territory of Minnesota, and we now see Indians encamped on the banks in larger or smaller numbers. The men, standing or walking, wrapped in their red or yellow-grey blankets; the women, busied at the fires either within or without the tents, or carrying their children on their backs in the yellow blankets in which they themselves are wrapped. All are bare-headed, with their black locks hanging down, like horses' tails, or sometimes plaited. A great number of children, boys especially, leap about shouting on the shores. We proceeded very slowly, and stuck fast on the shallows continually, as we wound among the islands. In the meantime, little canoes of Indians glided quickly, and as it were, shyly, hither and thither along the shores and the islands, the people seeming to be looking for something among the bushes. They appeared, for the most part, to be women in the boats; but it is not easy to distinguish a man from a woman as they sit there wrapped in their blankets, with their bare, unkempt hair. They were seeking for wild berries and herbs, which they collect, among the bushes. How savage, and like wild beasts, they looked! And yet it is very entertaining to see human beings so unlike the people one sees every day, so unlike our own selves!

"The Indians we see here are of the Sioux or Dakotah nation, still one of the most powerful tribes in the country, and who, together with the Chippewas, inhabit the district around the springs of the Mississippi (Minnesota). Each nation is said to amount to twenty-five thousand souls. The two tribes live in hostility with each other; but have lately held, after some bloody encounters, a peace congress at Fort Snelling, where the American authorities compelled these vengeful people,

although unwillingly, to offer each other the hand of reconciliation.

"Mr. Sibley, who has lived many years among the Sioux, participating in their hunting and their daily life, has related to me many characteristic traits of this people's life and disposition. There is a certain grandeur about them, but it is founded on immense pride; and their passion for revenge is carried to a savage and cruel extreme. Mr. Sibley is also very fond of the Indians, and is said to be a very great favourite with them. Sometimes when we sail past Indian villages he utters a kind of wild cry, which receives an exulting response from the shore.

"Sometimes we see a little log-house, with two or three Indian lodges beside it. Such houses belong to half-blood Indians, that is to say, one whose father was a white man and mother an Indian, and these are his relations by the mother's side, or the relatives of his Indian wife, who have come to dwell near him. He is commonly engaged in trade, and is a link between the Indian and European.

"We have now also some Indians on board, a family of the Winnebagoes, husband, wife, and daughter, a young girl of seventeen, and two young warriors of the Sioux tribe, adorned with fine feathers, and painted with red and yellow, and all colours I fancy, so that they are splendid. They remain on the upper deck, where I also remain, on account of the view being so much more extensive. The Winnebago man is also painted, and lies on deck generally on his stomach, propped on his elbows, and wrapped in his blanket. The wife looks old and worn-out, but is cheerful and talkative. The girl is tall and good-looking, but has heavy features and broad round shoulders; she is very shy, and turns away, if any one looks at her. I saw the three have their dinner: they took a piece of dark-coloured meat, which I supposed to have been smoke-dried, out of a bag, and alternately tore a piece from it with their teeth. I offered them cakes and fruit, which I had with me; the wife laughed and almost snatched them from me. They were well pleased to receive them, but expressed no thanks. The young Sioux warriors look like some kind of great cock. They strut about now and then, and look proud, and then they squat themselves down on their hams, like apes, and chatter away as volubly as any two old gossips ever did. All the men have noses like a hawk's bill, and the corners of their mouths are drawn down, which gives a disagreeable, scornful expression to the countenance. Nothing, however, about them has struck me so much as their eyes, which have a certain hard, inhuman expression. They seem to me like those of wild beasts, cold, clear, with a steady, hard, and almost cruel, glance. One could fancy that they had caught sight of some object, some prey a long way off in the forest. The glance is not deficient in intelligence or acuteness, but it is deficient in feeling. There is an immense difference between their eyes and those of the negroes. The former are a cold day, the latter a warm night."

Miss Bremer afterwards witnessed slave-scenes in Cuba which drew many a sympathetic tear from her tender and Christian heart:—

"St. Amelia Inhegno, March 15th.

"St. Amelia Inhegno is a large sugar plantation, and I am now sitting in the smoke of the sugar-mill, which enters through the open window into my room—a large, excellent room, with a regular glass window, from which I obtain a fine view of the hills of Camerica, and the palm-groves and plantations at their feet. I have everything here which I can wish for, only too much of the sugar manufacture, which is just opposite my one window, and which is on a much larger scale than on the plantation of Ariadne. Is it not singular that the word *Inhegno*, which here signifies an inclosed and cultivated place, and which is always used to indicate a plantation, so much resembles, both in sound and meaning, our Swedish word *Inhägnad*?

"My hostess, Mrs. de C., is an agreeable and well-bred American lady, a widow with four children, three of whom are in the United States, and only one, a pretty girl of sixteen, remaining with her at home. She lives here with her father, an old officer of cheerful temperament, although lame, and confined for the most part to his arm-chair. A young American Creole, Mr. W., whose plantation adjoins, is a daily visitor in the family, and a most agreeable companion he is. He, like my hostess, is possessed of the gift of gay and easy conversation, below which lies a foundation of earnest integrity. Another young man belongs to the social circle of the evening and the dinner-table, and he is, under the old gentleman, overseer of the plantation. This young man is of great value to me from the candour and readiness with which he communicates any information which I may desire to possess.

"This plantation is much larger than the one I visited in Limonar, and a considerable portion of the slaves—two hundred in number—have lately been brought hither from Africa, and have a much wilder appearance than those I saw at Ariadne. They are worked also with much more severity, because, here they are allowed only four-and-a-half hours out of the four-and-twenty for rest; that is to say, for their meals and sleep, and that during six or seven months of the year! Through the remaining portion of the twelve months, the 'dead season,' as it is called, the slaves are allowed to sleep the whole night. It is true, nevertheless, that even now, upon this plantation, they have *one night* a week for sleep, and a few hours in the forenoon of each alternate Sunday, for rest. It is extraordinary how any human beings can sustain existence under such circumstances; and yet I see here powerful negroes who have been on the plantations for twenty or thirty years. When the negroes have once become accustomed to the labour and the life of the plantation it seems to agree with them; but during the first years, when they are brought here free and wild from Africa, it is very hard to them, and many seek to free themselves from slavery by suicide. This is frequently the case among the Lucomees, who appear to be among the noblest tribes of Africa, and it is not long since eleven Lucomees were found hanging from the branches of a guassima tree—a tree which has long horizontal branches. They had each one bound his breakfast in a girdle around him; for the African believes that such as die here immediately arise again to new life in their native land. Many female slaves, therefore, will lay upon the corpse of the self-murdered the kerchief, or the head-gear, which she most admires, in the belief that it will thus be conveyed to those who are dear to her in the mother-country, and will bear to them a salutation from her. The corpse of a suicide-slave has been seen covered with hundreds of such tokens.

"I am told here that nothing but severity will answer in the treatment of slaves; that they always must know that the whip is over them; that they are an ungrateful people; that in the disturbances of 1846, it was the kindest masters who were first massacred with their whole families, while, on the other hand, the severe masters were carried off by their slaves into the woods, there to be concealed during the disturbances. I am told, that in order for a man to be loved by his slaves he must be feared. I do not believe it; such is not human nature; but there is a difference between fear and love. There is one fear which does not exclude love, and one which produces hatred and revolution.

"The slaves have here, in a general way, a dark and brooding appearance. They go to their work in the sugar-fields sleepy and weary. As they drive the oxen to and fro, I frequently see them sucking sugar-cane, which they are very fond of, and of which they seem allowed here to have as much as they like. This is, at all events, a refreshment. They are not fed here on rice, but principally upon a species of root called malanga, which, it is said, they like, but which seemed to me insipid.

It is yellow and something like the potato, but has a poor and somewhat bitter taste; each slave receives a portion of such root boiled for dinner, and eats it with his salt meat. They have for breakfast boiled maize, which they bruise and mix with wild tomatoes, the fruit of the plantain, or vegetables; for they are allowed a little land on the plantation where they may sow and reap for themselves, and besides this, each family has a pig, which they kill yearly and sell.

"Sunday, March 17.—It is the Sabbath, and forenoon; but the sugar-mill is still grinding, and the whip-lash sounds commanding labour. The slaves will continue to work the whole day as if it were a week-day. Next Sunday, they say, is the one on which the slaves will rest for some hours, and dance if they are inclined; but—they look so worn out!

"There are in Cuba plantations where the slaves work twenty-one out of the four-and-twenty hours; plantations where there are only men who are driven like oxen to work, but with less mercy than oxen. The planter calculates that he is a gainer by so driving his slaves, that they may die within seven years, within which time he again supplies his plantation with fresh slaves, which are brought hither from Africa, and which he can purchase for two hundred dollars a-head. The continuance of the slave-trade in Cuba keeps down the price of slaves. I have heard of 'gangs' of male slaves, six hundred in each gang, who are treated as prisoners, and at night locked up in a jail; but this is on the plantations in the southern part of the island."

The following dialogue took place in one of the United States, which still assiduously sells its slaves "down South"—

"Are you a Christian?" inquired I from a young handsome Mulatto woman who waited on me here.

"No, Missis, I am not."

"Have you not been baptised? Have you not been taught about Christ?"

"Yes, Missis, I have a god-mother, a negro-woman, who was very religious, and who instructed me."

"Do you not believe what she told you about Christ?"

"Yes, Missis; but I don't *feel* it here, Missis, and she laid her hand on her breast."

"Where were you brought up?"

"A long way from here, up the Missouri, Missis; a long way off!"

"Were your owners good to you?"

"Yes, Missis; they never gave me a bad word."

"Are you married?"

"Yes, Missis, but my husband is a long way off with his master."

"Have you any children?"

"I have had six, Missis; but have not a single one left. Three are dead, and they have sold the other three away from me. When they took from me the last little girl, oh, I believed I never should have got over it! It almost broke my heart!"

"And they were so-called Christians who did that! It was not wonderful that she, the negro slave, had a difficulty in *feeling* Christianity, that she could not feel herself a Christian. What a life! Bereaved of husband, children, of all that she had, without any prospect of an independent existence; possessed of nothing on the face of the earth; condemned to toil, toil, toil, without hope of reward or day of rest! Why should it be strange if she became stupid or indifferent, nay, even hostile, and bitter in her feelings towards those in whose power she is, they who call themselves her protectors, and yet who robbed her of her all? Even of that last little girl, that youngest, dearest, only child!"

As a pendent to the above, we may quote Miss Bremer's description of a visit which she made to a Virginian jail. We wish the motto of the work, "Sing unto the Lord a new song," might become applicable to this:—

"July 3rd.—I have to-day, in company with an

estimable German gentleman, resident at Richmond, visited some of the negro jails, that is, those places of imprisonment in which negroes are in part punished, and in part confined for sale. I saw in one of these jails, a tall, strong-limbed negro, sitting silent and gloomy, with his right-hand wrapped in a cloth: I asked if he were ill.

"No," replied his loquacious keeper, 'but he is a very bad rascal. His master, who lives higher up the river, has parted him from his wife and children, to sell him down South, as he wanted to punish him, and now, the scoundrel, to be revenged upon his master, and to make himself fetch a less sum of money, has cut off the fingers of his right hand! The rascal asked me to lend him an axe to knock the nails into his shoes with, and I lent it him without suspecting any bad intention, and now has the fellow gone and maimed himself for life!'

"I went up to the negro, who certainly had not a good countenance, and asked him whether he were a Christian. He replied curtly, 'No!' Whether he ever had heard of Christ? He again replied, 'No!' I said to him, that if he had known him, he would not have done this act; but that even now he ought not to believe himself abandoned, because He who has said—'Come unto me, all ye that are weary and heavy laden,' had spoken also to him and would console and recreate even him.

"He listened to me at the commencement with a gloomy countenance, but by degrees he brightened up, and at the close looked quite melted. This embittered soul was evidently still open and accessible to good. The sun shone into the prison-yard where he sat with his maimed hand, and the heavy irons on his feet, but no Christian had come hither to preach to him the Gospel of Mercy.

"The door of the prison was opened to us by a negro, whose feet also were fettered by heavy irons. He looked so good-tempered and agreeable, that I asked with some astonishment:

"But this man, what has he done that he should, then, be in irons?"

"Ah," said the keeper, 'just nothing; but his master had hired him out to work in the coal-pits, and something disagreeable to him happened there, so the fellow after that would not work there, and refused to go; so his master wishes to sell him, to punish him, and he ordered that we should put him in irons just to mortify him.'

"And this plan had succeeded completely. The poor fellow was so annoyed and ashamed, that he did not seem to know which way to look while the keeper related his story; and besides that, he looked so good-tempered, so full of sensibility, that, strong fellow as he was, he seemed as if he would suffer rather from an injustice being done to him, than be excited by it to defiance and revenge, as was the case with the other negro. He was evidently a good man, and deserved a better master.

"In another prison we saw a pretty little white boy of about seven years of age, sitting among some tall negro girls. The child had light hair, the most lovely light-brown eyes, and cheeks as red as roses; he was nevertheless the child of a slave mother, and was to be sold as a slave. His price was three hundred and fifty dollars. The negro girls seemed very fond of the white boy, and he was left in their charge, but whether that was for his good or not is difficult to say. No motherly Christian mother visited either this innocent imprisoned boy, or the negro-girls. They were left to a heathenish life and the darkness of the prison.

"In another 'jail' were kept the so-called 'fancy-girls,' for fancy purchasers. They were handsome fair mulattoes, some of them almost white girls.

"We saw in one jail the room in which the slaves are flogged, both men and women. There were iron rings in the floor, to which they are secured when they are laid down. I looked at the strip of cow-hide, 'the paddle,' with which they are flogged, and remarked, 'Blows from this could not, however, do very much harm.'

"Oh, yes, yes, but,"—replied the keeper, grinning with a very significant glance, "it can cause as much torture as any other instrument, and even more, because one can give a many blows with this strip of hide, without its leaving any outward sign; it does not cut into the flesh."

"The slaves may remain many months in this prison before they are sold."

"The Southern States are said to be remarkable for their strict attention to religious observances; they go regularly to church; they send out missionaries to China and to Africa. But they leave the innocent captive slave in their own prisons, without instruction or consolation."

"Yet once more—what might not women, what ought not women to do in this case!"

"I have heard young beautiful girls declare themselves proud to be Americans, and above everything else, proud to be Virginians! I should like to have taken them to these jails, and have seen whether, in the face of all this injustice, they could have been proud of being Virginians, proud of the institutions of Virginia."

To close with something livelier, here is a scene at Havannah:—

"Havannah, April 15th.

"Good morning once more, my little heart, in Havannah, where I am excellently lodged in Mr. Woolcott's good hotel, Havannah House, and where I am now able to live cheaper than at first, because the flood of travellers has now somewhat withdrawn, and there is plenty of room. I have again my former little room with its outlet on the roof, and the clever, good-tempered Mrs. Mary to look after me, and a black Rosetta with splendid eyes and a cheerful smile to wait upon me as a second servant. The good F.'s have also again invited me to take up my former quarters in their house; but the house is full of children and guests, and I will not abuse their hospitality; besides, I so infinitely enjoy my solitude and my liberty."

"This is Maunday-Thursdays, a great holiday in the Christian Church, and I have this morning visited two churches in the city. There was great pomp in them. Ladies, dressed as for a ball, knelt upon splendid mats in silk attire, and satin shoes, jewels, gold ornaments, and flowers, with bare necks and arms, and everywhere the transparent black mantillas, and everywhere glittering, waving fans. Quite young girls even were so tricked out. And all around them stood gentlemen contemplating the ladies through their lorgnettes. The sight of all these adorned, only half-veiled women of all colours—for mulattoes also, very splendidly attired, and with magnificent figures, were among them—prostrated in crowds on their knees in the centre aisle of the church from the very end to the altar, is really beautiful, especially as the eyes and busts of the Spanish women are generally remarkably lovely. But the want of earnestness in everything, excepting in vanity and the wish to be admired, was very striking, especially on a day such as this—the day of the Lord's Supper, that calm, unpretending, solemn day of initiation to the highest and holiest life of humanity. I called to remembrance a Maunday-Thursdays in St. Jacob's Church at Stockholm; there simply called 'Going to the Lord's Supper.' Whole families assemble—father, mother and children, assemble to drink together from the cup. I remembered the silence, the calm, deep devotion of all who filled that crowded church!"

"There is but one general voice in Cuba, among the strangers of various nations dwelling there, of the entire want of religious life on the island. The clergy live in open defiance of their vows; are respected by no one, nor deserve to be so; nor does morality stand any higher than religion."

"There is plenty of love and passion at Cuba," said a thoughtful young man, a resident there, to me, "but it is more frequently on the side of vice than of virtue."

"The god of money is blindly worshipped. It

is very seldom that a marriage takes place in which he has not been consulted before any other. Ladies who remain unmarried seldom continue blameless in their lives. Unmarried men never are so."

"People come to this beautiful island, like parasites, merely to suck its life and live at its expense. But it avenges itself, flings around them its hundred-fold, oppressive, snake-like arms, drags them down, suffocates their higher life, and changes them into a corpse in its embrace."

"In the evening.—I have again visited three or four churches. They are splendidly illuminated this evening, especially the choirs and around the altar-pieces. They were less crowded than at morning mass, and now principally by a lower class of people. Several seemed to be kneeling and praying with devotion. There sat, one on each side the entrance of the cathedral, two magnificent Spanish dames entirely covered with jewels, each with a table before her, upon which a collection was made for the poor. One single jewel from all their splendour would richly have outweighed all the offerings of those humble people. I passed in and out without impediment, mingled with the crowds in the churches, or with the crowds in the streets, and all was peaceable and quiet. The appearance was of a people going about to amuse themselves. From this moment to Easter Sunday morning at about nine o'clock, a profound stillness prevails in Havannah; not a single volante is seen in the streets. To-morrow afternoon they will be occupied by a great procession."

"Easter Sunday.—I witnessed the procession the day before yesterday, with two American acquaintances, from the piazza of La Plaza de Armas. Ladies dressed as for a ball, white, yellow, brown, and black, attended by gentlemen, filled the square early in the afternoon, walking about, talking, and laughing. The mulatto ladies were particularly distinguishable by their showiness, brilliant flowers and ornaments in their hair and in their bosoms, and in these they flaunted about in the style of proud peacocks. It was evident that people were expecting a splendid show. In the twilight the procession approached with candles and blazing torches. The figure of the dead Christ is borne along lying upon a state-bed beneath an immense chandelier, which lights up the pale, noble, wax countenance. Mary weeping, is borne after, in a gold-embroidered mantle, and with a golden crown on her head; and Mary Magdalene, and the other Mary, have also their magnificent garments. The procession was large, and not without a certain pomp and dignity. Among those who took part in the procession I observed a number of negroes, with large white scarfs bound across the breast and shoulders. I was told that they belonged to a kind of order of freemasons, who attached themselves to the church by the exercise of deeds of mercy, taking care of hospitals, &c."

"Thousands of people streamed gaily along the streets and squares, and the coloured portion especially brilliant, in all the colours of the rainbow. It was a splendid spectacle, but not at all suitable for the occasion. Not a particle of seriousness was observable among the masses of people. It was very evident by this procession that religion was dead in Cuba!"

"Nevertheless, yesterday was a great feast, and a deep stillness prevailed throughout the lively Havannah. This morning the image of the arisen Christ was borne in great procession from the cathedral to the Church of St. Catalina; and from St. Catalina in the meantime another procession was advancing, the weeping Mary Magdalene seeking for Christ. When the processions meet, and it is proclaimed that Mary Magdalene has met Christ, a shot is fired, and all the bells of the churches begin to ring, flags to wave in the harbour and on the church towers, and trumpets to be blown. The feast is at an end. Volantes drive out of the gates, and negroes rush about also, shouting and laughing; a thoughtless, universal jubilation at once begins."

Miss Bremer's letters are certainly very charming productions, and will be remembered long after the sound and fury of sterner critics have passed into oblivion.

NOTICES.

Poetical Scripture History. By the Rev. H. S. M. Hubert, M.A. Longman and Co.

MR. HUBERT has in this volume selected a number of poetical pieces illustrative of some of the principal events in sacred history. From Milton the largest number of extracts are taken, beginning with his account of the days of Creation, and closing with the noble passage in the last book of 'Paradise Lost' describing the commencement of the new heavens and the new earth. There are also extracts from Cowper, Heber, Watts, Addison, and other poets who have referred to subjects of sacred history. Mr. Hubert has contributed some pieces of his own, devotional in their spirit and scriptural in their matter, but not remarkable for poetical merit. For young people the book is calculated to be useful, doctrinal truth and practical lessons, as well as historical narratives, being presented in the attractive form of poetry; and the poetry being chiefly that of Milton, the intellect will be exercised while the heart is improved.

Obsolete Words and Phrases in the Bible, Apocrypha, and the Prayer-Book familiarly explained. By the Rev. John Booker, A.M. Dublin: M'Glashan.

THE design of this little work is good, and it is likely to prove useful, especially in districts where education is at a low ebb among the people. The author is vicar of a parish in Ireland, where he probably meets with considerable ignorance of the English language, else in the list of obsolete and difficult words he would hardly have included such expressions as *peep, sore, craft, provoke, base, noisome, debtor*, and many others. Deducting all that are needlessly introduced by Mr. Booker, and those in the Apocrypha and Prayer-Book, the list of really obsolete words in the Scriptures is wonderfully short, showing how little the substance of the English language has changed since the authorized version appeared. The ordinary class of readers in the days of King James I. could scarcely have understood or read an English version which was as old then as ours is now. The general diffusion of the Bible, as well as the public reading of the Church Services, has chiefly served to give a fixed and unvarying character to the English language. With all the improvements and additions of subsequent times, the authorized English version of the Bible is still the standard of our language.

The Poetical Works of George Herbert. With Life, Critical Dissertation, and Explanatory Notes. By the Rev. George Gilfillan. Edinburgh: James Nichol.

COLERIDGE said, that for a man fully to appreciate George Herbert he must be "an affectionate and dutiful son of the Church, and from habit, conviction, and a constitutional predisposition to ceremonialness in piety, as in manners, find her forms and ordinances aids of religion, not sources of formality." Mr. Gilfillan has none of the qualifications here described, yet never was the character of Herbert more highly appreciated, nor his poetry more unreservedly admired, than by this Presbyterian editor. Of 'The Temple' Mr. Gilfillan says, that, "next to the Psalms, it is the finest collection of ardent and holy breathings to be found in the world," and that "its poetical merit is of a very rare, lofty, and original order." Of the poem in its devotional, poetical, and philosophical aspects, a judicious and ingenious critical description is given in the preliminary dissertation. A short sketch of the life of Herbert is prefixed, with remarks on his personal and ministerial character. This part of the editorial work is done with true Christian liberality, and with the sympathy of a man of genius. We have not met with anything from Mr. Gilfillan's pen more pleasing and satisfactory than his account of the life and works of George Herbert. To 'The

Temple,' is appended the poem of Christopher Harvey on a kindred subject, 'The Synagogue.' It was published anonymously in 1640. Walton praised it highly, and ascribed it to Harvey. The editor states, we do not know on what authority, that Harvey was also the author of 'The School of the Heart,' which we had always thought was the work of Quarles, the author of the 'Emblems.' The present volume forms one of the new series of the 'English Poetical Classics,' published by Mr. Nichol of Edinburgh. In typography and appearance they are very superior, and they are issued at a price of unusual cheapness. Milton's 'Poems,' in two volumes, Thomson's 'Seasons,' Herbert's 'Poems,' Young's 'Night Thoughts,' and a volume containing the poetry of Goldsmith, Collins, and Warton, are all included in the first year's subscription of a guinea. The series will form a beautiful and valuable library edition of the English classic poets.

Popular Errors on the subject of Insanity examined and exposed. By James F. Duncan, A.M., M.D. Dublin: M'Glashan.

THIS treatise is intended principally for non-medical readers, and relates to subjects somewhat different from what are found in ordinary professional works on mental disease. The author justly observes, that there are many popular errors on the nature and treatment of insanity, as well as on the legal and moral bearings of questions connected with the insane. Mental disorders differ in one respect from all other diseases—that the sufferers are indebted to the interference of friends for procuring medical advice and aid. In pain or sickness of the body the patient is warned by his own sensations to send for a physician, and his own good sense usually leads him to follow the advice given. But in the case of the insane, the symptoms are chiefly observed, and judgment formed concerning them, by those who are around the patient. Knowledge of the nature of such complaints is therefore worthy of popular study. There are also special reasons why certain classes of nonprofessional men should pay attention to this department of medical knowledge. Members of the legal profession are often required to form judgments depending on an accurate acquaintance with abnormal mental conditions. In the chapter on 'Actions for False Imprisonment,' Dr. Duncan cites some remarkable instances, and there are continually occurring important judicial or legal questions, where the responsibility and the mental capacity of individuals are under discussion. On the subject of 'Commissions of Inquiry,' some valuable practical suggestions are offered. The remarks on the moral treatment of insanity deserve the careful attention both of professional and nonprofessional readers. Although Dr. Duncan's treatise is intended for popular perusal, the statements which it contains are the result of long and diligent scientific study of the subject, acquired while the author had medical charge of several public institutions in Dublin, set apart for the treatment of mental disease, or the confinement of the insane.

A Geological Map of the United States and the British Provinces of North America, with an Explanatory Text, Geological Sections, and Plates of Fossils. By Jules Marcou. Boston: Gould and Lincoln.

IN this treatise, with its accompanying map and sections, M. Jules Marcou gives a concise but masterly sketch of the geology of North America. The first geological surveys in that continent were made from 1812 to 1816, by Lesueur and Maclure, the latter publishing in 1817 a geological map of all the original States of the Union east of the Alleghany mountains. Since that time the works have been very numerous, relating to all parts of America, especially since the publication of 'The Silurian System' of Sir Roderick Murchison, and the recognition of analogous formations in the New World by Mr. Featherstonhaugh and others. Various maps of different regions have also been published, and Sir Charles Lyell in 1845, in his 'Travels,' collected previous information, and add-

ing his own observations, published the first general map of the geology of the United States and the British Provinces that had appeared. M. Marcou has diligently studied all the works of preceding geologists, and has travelled for three years in various districts to verify the maps and descriptions that have been published. The book is dedicated to M. Agassiz, in whose company he had the privilege of making many of his exploring expeditions. A list is given of all the books and memoirs consulted in preparing the work, presenting a bibliographic view of American geology, valuable and convenient for reference. The map presents a complete view of the results hitherto attained by the researches of geologists in America. The explanatory text is well written and well arranged, and contains many facts in short compass. The plates of the fossils which characterize the formations are very good, both in their scientific and artistic drawing.

The A B C; or, Alphabetical Railway Guide, showing at a glance how and when you can go from London to the different Stations in Great Britain, and return. Tweedie.

WE have been so puzzled this autumn with the complicated maturity of Bradshaw, that we welcome with interest this new and admirable plan of showing at a glance the hours of departure and arrival of all the trains between London and other stations in Great Britain in alphabetical order. It will prove a most useful pocket companion to the traveller to and from London.

SUMMARY.

OR works allied to medical science, but containing matter for the study of other than professional readers, we may mention *The Physiology of Temperance and Total Abstinence* (Bohn), by William B. Carpenter, M.D., F.R.S., in which the learned Professor treats of the effects of the excessive, moderate, and occasional use of alcoholic liquors on the human system in the state of health. The substance of Dr. Carpenter's treatise is summed up in the closing sentence of one of his chapters, where he says that "even the most moderate habitual use of alcoholic liquors becomes to the average man positively injurious, if protracted for a sufficient length of time to allow of the development of its effects." Bardolph himself would not have objected to this statement. It is satisfactory to find that a Professor of Physiology comes to much the same conclusions on the whole subject as men of prudence and common sense would naturally form. The last chapter of Dr. Carpenter's book describes the cases where alcoholic stimulants are advisable, among which he includes "those whose avocations involve a good deal of mental activity," to whom he recommends the use of bitter ale. Professor Henderson, of the University of Edinburgh, publishes a second edition of *Homoeopathy fairly Represented* (Constable and Co.), being a reply to the work of Professor Simpson against the system. *Elements of Psychological Medicine* (J. Churchill), by Daniel Noble, F.R.C.S., form a useful introduction to the practical study of insanity, adapted for students and junior practitioners. Mr. Noble has had considerable experience in the treatment of this class of diseases, and the lectures now published were delivered in the presence of medical practitioners as well as students, at whose request they were sent to the press. The remarks on the moral management of the insane indicate a judicious and humane mind as well as professional skill in the author.

In the 'Traveller's Library' (Longman and Co.), a recent number contains a translation of the *Confessions of a Working Man*, by Emile Souvestre. English readers will peruse with interest those parts of the narrative which afford parallels or contrasts with the customs and feelings of operatives in our own country. On the condition of the English industrious classes, a book in the form of a dialogue, *Master and Man* (John Chapman), by Henry Booth, Esq., discusses a variety of social and political questions, comprising population,

supply and demand, competition, the poor law, education, the franchise, and vote by ballot. There are many sensible advices and remarks in the book, though the reader may not always agree with the author's general views.

On the subject of Romanism and Tractarianism, and their refutation, a volume of sermons is published, under the title of *Truth Spoken in Love*, by the Rev. H. H. Beemish, M.A., Minister of Trinity Chapel, Conduit Street (J. F. Shaw), containing scriptural statements and forcible arguments conveyed in a temperate style and Christian spirit. *The Jesuits, an Historical Sketch*, by E. W. Grinfield, M.A. (Seeleys), containing an account of the principles and proceedings of the order, as displayed in various countries of the world. The efforts made by the Jesuits to regain their power render the study of their past history important to Englishmen and Protestants. On the spiritual experience of the Christian pilgrim, a treatise, *Macariados; or the Happy Way in the Journey of Life* (Hamilton, Adams, and Co.), unfolds, in a series of remarks and meditations, part of the mental changes and outward vicissitudes which Bunyan has vividly described in his immortal allegory.

Of Professor Mannheim's systematic and practical grammar, *The Study of German Simplified* (Williams and Norgate), a new edition is published, enlarged and improved. *Altkbiades der Staatsmann und Feldherr*, by Dr. Gustav Friedrich Hertzberg, 'privatdozenten der Geschichte,' in the University of Halle, (Pfeffer, Halle), is a learned and able historical sketch.

A Sermon on the Education of the Poor (Longman and Co.), by the Rev. J. A. Emerton, D.D., Principal of Hanwell College, Middlesex, contains judicious remarks on the secular and religious instruction of the children of the poor. Another sermon, on the occasion of the appointment of a clergyman to the parish of New Brentford, is a faithful and scriptural statement of the responsibilities and duties of the pastoral office. The facts narrated in the appendix are honourable to all parties connected with the appointment.

A Summary of the Doctrine of the Lord's Supper (Sharp), by a Layman, contains a clear and satisfactory statement of the scriptural principles of this Christian ordinance.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

- Abernethy's (J.) Memoirs, by G. Macilvain, 2 vols., £1 1s. Aldrich, by Author of John Drayton, 3 vols., £1 11s. 6d. Answorth's Windsor Castle, illustrated by Cruikshank, 5s. Akenside's Poems, square 16mo, cloth, 2s. 6d.; gilt, 3s. Alderman Ralph, 2 vols, post 8vo, cloth, 7s. Alison's Europe, post 8vo, cloth, vol. ii., People's Edit., 4s. Bohn's Antiquarian Library, Orleansius Vitae, post 8vo, 4s. — Classical Library, Cicero on the Gods, post 8vo, 5s. — — — Appendix to Aeschylus, 3s. 6d. — Scientific Library, Comte's Philosophy, &c., p. 8vo, 5s. — Standard Library, Smith's Moral Sentiments, 3s. 6d. Calver's (Sir H.) Journals and Correspondence, 8vo, 15s. Caswall's (H.) Scotland and the Scottish Church, 12mo, 5s. Cressy's (Professor) Decisive Battles, 5th edition, 8vo, 15s. Dalton's (W.) Family Compendary, 12mo, 7th edition, 4s. Disraeli's Works, vol. viii. Taucer, fcp. 8vo. boards, 1s. 6d. Dodd's Beauties of Shakspeare, 3s. Family Friend, vol. v. new series, post 8vo, 2s. 6d; gilt 3s. 6d. Favourite Picture Book, 4to, cloth, 3s. 6d. Folkards (H. C.) Sailing Boat, crown 8vo, cloth, 10s. 6d. Frontier Lands of the Christian and the Turk, 2d edit. £1 8s. Garbet's (E.) The Soul's Life, 12mo, cloth, 6s. Gleig's School Series: Elements of Bookkeeping, 18mo, 1s. Gray (T.) and Mason's (W.) Correspondence, 8vo, cloth, 15s. Greenbank's (Prof.) British Orator, 2d edition, 12mo, 3s. Hall's (W.) Greek Roots, 12mo, cloth, 2d edition, 6s. Hand-Book of Central Italy, part 1, 3d edition, 12mo, 7s. Happy Sundays for the Young, in two series, each 3s. Harold, by Sir E. B. Lytton, post 8vo, cloth, 4s. Hubert's Poetical Scripture History, 12mo, cloth, 4s. Hunt's (W.) Religion of the Heart, 12mo, cloth, 6s. Illustrated Family Novelist: Blanche the Huguenot, 2s. 6d. Jones's (W.) Poems, Songs, and Ballads, crown 8vo, 6s. Latrobe's (J.) Music of the Church, 8vo, cloth, 10s. 6d. Letters to My Unknown Friends, 4th edition, fcp. 8vo, 5s. M'Farlane's Kasmit; or, The Doom of Turkey, post 8vo, 6s. Manual of French Cookery, 12mo, cloth, 6s. Milman's (R.) Love of the Atonement, 5s. Minton's Hand-Book for Modelling Wax Flowers, 2s. 6d. Moore's Hand-Book of British Ferns, 2d edit. 18mo, 5s. Napier's (Sir C. J.) Indian Misgovernment, 8vo, 7s. 6d. National Illustrated Library: Life and Works of Pope, 2s. 6d. Neil's (S.) Art of Reasoning, crown 8vo, cloth, 4s. 6d. Novelties, Inventions, and Curiosities in Arts, &c. fcp. 2d. Poet's (The) Dream, a Tale of Christmas, fcp. 8vo, 1s. 6d.

Poole's (Jabez) Psalter, 4to, cloth, 5s.
 Pratt's (W. Tidd) Charitable Tracts, 12mo, boards, 3s.
 Redeemed (The) Rose; or, Willie's Rest. fcp. 8vo, cloth, 3s.
 Ruskin's (J.) Stones of Venice, vol. iii. imp. 8vo, £1 11s. 6d.
 Salad for the Solitary, crown 8vo, cloth, 3s. 6d.
 Scott's Novels, library edition, 8vo, cloth, vol. xviii. 9s.
 Shelford's (L.) Law of Copyholds, 12mo, cloth, 12s.
 Southey's Juvenile and Minor Poems, 2 vols., fcp. 8vo, 7s.
 ———— Poetical Works, vol. iii., foolscap 8vo, cloth, 3s. 6d.
 Starforth's (J.) Architecture of the Farm, 4to, cloth, £2 2s.
 Stocqueler's India, foolscap 8vo, cloth, 1s. 6d.
 Taylor's Retrospect of Religious Life in England, 7s. 6d.
 Traveller's Library, No. 49: Brittany and the Chase, 1s.
 Trotter's (J.) Complete System of Arithmetic, 12mo, 3s.
 Truths Illustrated by Great Authors, 2d edit., 12mo, 6s.
 Twin (The) Sisters, by Lucy Field, 3 vols., £1 11s. 6d.
 Universal Library, vol. iii.; Voyages and Travels, 6s.
 Webster's Dictionary, 4to, cloth, new edition, £1 11s. 6d.
 Wonderful Things, 2 vols., foolscap 8vo, cloth, 5s.

M. ARAGO.

On Sunday evening died in Paris, at the age of sixty-seven, the indefatigable and world-renowned philosopher and politician, Dominique-François Arago, Perpetual Secretary of the Académie des Sciences, and member of nearly all the scientific societies of Europe. He had been suffering for some time past from diabetes and dropsy, but was actively intelligent to the last. Beyond a pendulum expedition, made in early life by M. Arago with M. Biot, which we shall presently notice, the career of this eminent physicist was not distinguished by any elaborate, great work. His mind was chiefly on the alert for the investigation of passing phenomena, and the discussion of passing topics. He made almost an infinity of small researches, of which the publication is scattered in various memoirs during a long series of years, and sometimes they were extremely important. Chemistry, Physics, Mechanics, Natural History, Philosophy, and Literature, all engaged his attention by turns, and it was his boast that every man was an idler who did not work fourteen hours a-day. For his researches in the comparatively new science of electro-magnetism he had the honour, in 1825, to receive the Copley Medal of the Royal Society. "Assure M. Arago," said the President, Sir Humphry Davy, in his address to Sir James South, who was charged with the mission, "of the lively interest we take in his ingenious and important researches. Tell him we are extremely impatient to know the results of his experiments in a field so new and fertile."

M. Arago was born in 1786, at Estagel, near Perpignan. His parents were of the middle class, and his father after the great revolution became cashier of the Mint in that town. Having evinced an early interest in the pursuit of natural philosophy, M. Arago was sent to Montpellier to study mathematics and the branches of knowledge required for admission to the Ecole Polytechnique. He was prepared at the age of seventeen to pass the preliminary examination, and did so with an *éclat* that made him to be placed first in the list of candidates. Admitted to the school, he underwent the examinations with distinction, and having decided on a scientific career, obtained the appointment of Secretary to the Bureau des Longitudes. The zeal and acquirements of M. Arago in that capacity attracted the attention of Monge, and he recommended him to the Government in 1806 as a fit and proper person to undertake, in conjunction with M. Biot, the measurement of the arc of the terrestrial meridian. This measurement, on the basis of the decimal system, had been made between Dunkirk and Barcelona, and MM. Biot and Arago were commissioned to continue it from Barcelona to the Balearic Isles. Provided with the necessary instruments, they established themselves on the summit of Mount Galatzo in Catalonia, and entered into communication with two Spaniards, charged to assist them, located on a mountain in the isle of Ivica. In 1807 the operations were so far advanced as to enable M. Biot to return to Paris to make some calculations, and M. Arago was left alone on his onerous mission, when a war broke out between France and Spain. The peasantry, imagining, from the peculiarity of his operations, that he was

a spy, attempted to murder him. He escaped, however, in disguise, to the coast, and managed to embark in a vessel bound for Belver. After remaining there for some considerable time, M. Arago obtained leave to proceed on board an Algerine vessel to Marseilles, but no sooner had he reached the French coast when the vessel was seized by a Spanish corsair, and carried captive to Rosas. M. Arago was detained a prisoner for some time, and subjected to much ill-treatment; and when at last the vessel was set at liberty, it was cast ashore in a violent tempest on the coast of Africa, and he was conveyed as a prisoner before the Dey. In 1809 M. Arago obtained his release and returned to Paris, and as a tribute to his energy and talent under these trying circumstances he was elected, at the early age of twenty-three, a member of the Academy of Sciences, in the place of the illustrious Lalande. He was appointed about the same time a Professor of the Ecole Polytechnique; and now may be said to have commenced that eminent scientific career which he pursued with undiminished vigour to within a few days of his death. Only three weeks since he was working on a new edition of his memoir on thunder, and he had just requested M. Babinet to prepare for him a table of the best-determined numbers of the length of undulations to complete a paper on light. The subjects in which M. Arago may be said to have most distinguished himself are Magnetic and Rotatory Polarisation, Magnetism by the action of Currents, and Magnetism by Rotation; and to him we owe the invention of the Polariscopes.

The following is a list of the principal memoirs of M. Arago, which, it is to be hoped, will be collected into a single work:—*Mémoires sur les Affinités des Corps par la Lumière*, et particulièrement sur les forces réfringentes des différents gaz;—*Mémoire sur une Modification remarquable qu'éprouvent les Rayons lumineux dans leur passage à travers certains corps diaphanes*, &c.;—*Mémoire sur l'Action que les Rayons de Lumière polarisés exercent les uns sur les autres*;—*Recueil d'Observations géodésiques, astronomiques, &c.*;—*Sur les Chronomètres*;—*Sur les quantités de Pluie qui tombent à diverses hauteurs au-dessus du sol*;—*Table des Températures extrêmes observées à Paris et dans d'autres lieux*;—*Sur la Lune rousse*;—*De la Rosée*;—*Sur les Explosions des Machines à Vapeur*;—*Sur les Etoiles multiples*;—*Notice historique sur le Pôle voltaïque*;—*Sur les Puits forés, connus sous le nom de puits artésiens*;—*Sur la dernière Apparition de la Comète de Halley*;—*Sur les Hiéroglyphes égyptiens*;—*Sur le Tonnerre*;—*Notice sur Herschel*, &c. &c.

After the Revolution of 1830 M. Arago was nominated Director of the Observatory of the Bureau des Longitudes; and he succeeded Fourier, whose *éloge* he pronounced, as Perpetual Secretary of the Academy of Sciences. The *Annuaire des Longitudes* was under his direction; and he founded, in conjunction with Gay-Lussac, the *Recueil des Annales de Physique et de Chimie*. In 1834 M. Arago visited this country and attended the meeting of the British Association at Edinburgh. As a mark of special distinction on that occasion he was presented with the freedom of the city; and at the meetings of the sections, where he took part in some of the discussions, his remarks were listened to with the deference due to his reputation.

To the political career of M. Arago we need only refer for the sake of noticing the services which he rendered to science as a member of the Chamber of Deputies. On all questions relating to subjects connected with his scientific or literary pursuits his remarks had great weight. It was owing to his advocacy that the Chamber voted a sum of money for printing the works of Laplace and of Fermat, and for other similar purposes. He was a brilliant orator, and always firm and independent in his principles. In his earliest youth he refused to vote for the elevation of Bonaparte to the Consulship and the Empire, and on the memorable *coup d'état* of the present Bona-

parte he refused to take a vote of allegiance, though threatened with the loss of his appointments, his only means of subsistence. He was the *beau idéal* of a Republican, and many will remember his activity as a member of the Provisional Government that existed for a brief period on the downfall of Louis Philippe. The French critic Timon, speaking of him as a parliamentary orator, says, "When Arago ascends the tribune the Chamber, attentive and curious, becomes silent. The spectators in the public tribunes lean forward to look at him. His stature is commanding, his hair curling and flowing, and his fine head of the southern type dominates the Assembly. The muscular contraction of his temples shows firmness and meditation, which mark him out as a superior man. Unlike most of our orators who speak on anything and everything, and three times out of four know not what they say, Arago only speaks on profound questions, which add the attraction of science to the interest of the occasion. He addresses himself at the same time to the interests and the passions of his auditory. He consequently masters it. Scarcely has he entered on his subject than every eye is fixed on him. He takes, so to speak, science in his hand, strips it of its asperities and technical formulae, and renders it so easy that the most ignorant are charmed and astonished at finding they understand it."

M. Arago was a thoroughly honest man, and greatly respected in Paris by all classes. He was buried on Wednesday in the Cemetery of Père-la-Chaise, and though it rained incessantly, the funeral procession was followed by two or three thousand persons. The Emperor was represented at the ceremony by the Grand Marshal of the Palace.

The following *éloge* was pronounced over the tomb by M. Arago's long-attached colleague, M. Flourens:—

"Messieurs,

"La mort nous surprend toujours. Depuis plus de six mois, une maladie cruelle devait nous ôter toute espérance de voir M. Arago revenir parmi nous. Et cependant le coup qui nous frappe nous a aussi profondément consternés que s'il eût été imprévu. C'est que le vide que certains hommes laissent après eux encore plus grand que nos craintes mêmes n'avaient pu nous le représenter, et que nous n'en découvrons toute l'étendue que lorsqu'il s'est fait.

"C'est que l'intelligence qui vient de s'éteindre était cette puissante intelligence sur laquelle l'Académie aimait à se reposer: intelligence étonnante, née pour embrasser l'ensemble des sciences et pour l'agrandir, et dans laquelle semblait se réaliser, en quelque sorte, la noble mission de notre Compagnie, et sa devise même, de découvrir, d'inventer, et de perfectionner: *Invenit et perficit*.

"Dès le début de sa carrière, M. Arago eut le bonheur le plus enviable pour un jeune homme qui osait déjà rêver un avenir illustre, celui d'être attaché à un grand maître. Il fut choisi pour aller en Espagne, sous la direction de M. Biot, concourir à l'achèvement de la grande opération scientifique qui devait nous donner une mesure plus précise du globe. Sa vive capacité et le courage ardent avec lequel il se dévoua à cette belle entreprise lui valurent, à son retour, l'adoption de l'Académie.

"Il avait à peine vingt-trois ans. Sa jeunesse même attira sur lui la plus bienveillante affection; et le corps qui se plaisait à l'entourer de si bonne heure de tant de sympathies le vit bientôt, avec orgueil, les justifier toutes.

"Ce n'est point ici le lieu de rappeler tous les travaux d'une vie scientifique des plus actives, des plus passionnées, des plus mobiles. M. Arago avait le génie de l'invention. Il a ouvert des routes. Ses découvertes sur la polarisation colorée, sur les rapports de l'aimantation et de l'électricité, sur le magnétisme qu'on a appelé magnétisme de rotation, sont de ces découvertes supérieures qui nous dévoilent des horizons inconnus et fondent des sciences nouvelles.

"Il ne fut ni moins habile ni moins heureux

dans une autre voie de découvertes. M. Arago ne s'isolait pas dans ses propres succès. Il voulait, avec la même ardeur, les succès du corps auquel il appartenait. Il se faisait un bonheur de chercher les jeunes talents qui promettaient de nouvelles gloires à l'Académie; aussi, dans la carrière des sciences, n'est il presque aucun de ses contemporains qui ne lui reste attaché par les liens de la reconnaissance.

"M. Arago fut appelé à remplacer, en 1830, M. Fourier, comme secrétaire perpétuel. Dès qu'il parut à ce poste, une vie plus active sembla circuler dans l'Académie. Il savait, par une familiarité, toujours pleine de séduction dans un homme supérieur, gagner la confiance et se concilier les plus vives sympathies; ce don, cet art du succès, il le mit tout entier au service du corps dont il était devenu l'organe.

"Jamais l'action de l'Académie n'avait paru aussi puissante et ne s'étendit plus loin. Les sciences semblèrent jeter un éclat inaccoutumé et porter leurs bienfaisantes lumières sur toutes les forces productives de notre pays.

"Cet homme, d'une pénétration si sûre et si prompte, avait un talent d'analyse extraordinaire. L'exposition des travaux des autres semblait être un jeu pour son esprit. Dans ses fonctions de secrétaire, sa pensée rapide et facile, le tour spirituel, les expressions piquantes captivaient l'attention de ses confrères, qui, toujours étonnés de tant de facultés heureuses, l'écoulaient avec un plaisir mêlé d'admiration.

"Lorsque les progrès de la maladie lui eurent fait perdre la vue, toutes les ressources du génie si net et si vaste de M. Arago se dévoilèrent pour qui siègeait à côté de lui. De nombreux travaux sur les sujets les plus compliqués et les plus ardu, après une seule lecture entendue la veille, se retraçaient à la plus simple indication, dans une mémoire infailible, avec ordre, avec suite, et tout cela se faisait naturellement, aisément, sans aucune préoccupation visible. La facilité de la reproduction en dérobait la merveille.

"Comme historien de l'Académie, M. Arago apportait dans cette sorte de sacerdoce si difficile et si redoutable, où il s'agissait de pressentir le jugement de la postérité, une conscience d'étude, une force d'investigation, un désir d'être complètement équitable, qui marquaient à ses éloges un rang éminent. Dans les écrits de l'éloquent secrétaire se retrouvent toutes les qualités de son esprit, une pénétration sans égale, la verve brillante et le charme de la bonhomie.

"Interprète de cette Académie, dans laquelle M. Arago a siégé pendant près d'une demi-siècle, j'ai voulu ne parler que de l'homme qui nous a appartenu. Cet homme doit survivre pour rester une des illustrations scientifiques de notre pays.

"Les nobles vétérans de la science dans toutes les parties du monde civilisé, de Berlin à Londres, de Saint-Petersbourg à Philadelphie, partageront notre douleur. Les générations studieuses, qui, depuis quarante ans, se sont succédées, rediront à cette intelligente et patriotique jeunesse qui aujourd'hui les remplace dans nos brillantes écoles, combien il sut s'y faire aimer, et tout ce qu'avait de puissance la bonté sympathique du maître sur la tombe duquel ils viennent porter en ce moment l'hommage de leur douleur.

"Cet homme, en qui se réunissaient tant de supériorités, a rempli une partie de sa vie par le culte de la famille: il avait connu toutes les douceurs de la piété filiale; le lien de ses affections s'étendit sans jamais s'affaiblir; ses frères, ses sœurs, furent toujours, chez lui, sous le toit paternel; ses enfants et les leurs lui appartenaient également: aussi trouva-t-il une fille dont les soins pieux et touchants doivent recevoir aujourd'hui le tribut de reconnaissance de l'Académie."

The funeral was conducted with great ceremony. The remains of the deceased were conveyed from the Observatory under the escort of a battalion of the National Guards and a regiment of cavalry. The army, the Académie Française, the Académie des Sciences, and the Académie des Beaux-Arts, were severally represented by their leading members, and the streets were crowded by a sym-

thetic and respectful crowd of people. The mourners were MM. Emmanuel and Alfred Arago, sons of the deceased; M. Jacques Arago, his brother; and M. Mathieu, his brother-in-law, who, it is said, will succeed him at the Observatory.

THE LIVE ANT-BEAR AT THE ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS.

WHEN we were introduced to this, the latest novelty at the noble vivarium in the Regent's Park, we found the animal busy sucking and licking up—for his feeding is a combination of the two actions—the contents of a basin of squashed eggs. The singularly long and slender head, which looks more like a slightly-bent proboscis, or some such appendage to a head, was buried in the basin, and the end of the lithe and flexible tongue, like a rat's tail, or a writhing black worm, was ever and anon seen coiling up the sides of the basin, as it was rapidly protruded and withdrawn: the yellow yolk was dripping with the abundant rosy saliva secreted during the feeding process, from the extremely small terminal mouth; for the jaws are not slit open, as in the ordinary construction of the mouths of quadrupeds; and the head, viewed sideways, seems devoid of mouth: but this important aperture—by some deemed the essential character of an animal—is a small orifice or slit at the end of the tubular muzzle, just big enough, apparently, to let the vermiform tongue slip easily in and out. The tongue, the keeper told us, was sometimes protruded as far as fourteen inches from the mouth.

By the Qjuarani Indians the beast is known by the name "Youroumi," which D'Azara tells us* signifies in Spanish "boca chica," or "little-mouth." The Portuguese and Spanish Peons call it "ramandoua," or by a name equivalent to "ant-bear." The systematic denomination of the animal in the Zoological Catalogues is *Myrmecophaga jubata*, or the "Maned Ant-eater." This appellation would very well suit the animal if, as most spectators commonly imagine at first sight, its head was where its tail is; for the latter appendage is that part of the animal on which the hair is most developed after the fashion of a mane, whilst the actual head appears much more like a tail, of a slender, almost naked, stiff, rounded kind. The body is wholly covered by long, coarse hair, resembling hay, rapidly lengthening from the neck backwards to six or eight inches, and extending vertically upwards from along the upper border of the long tail, and downwards from its under border, to the length of from ten to eighteen inches. The colour of the ant-bear is greyish brown, with an oblique black band bordered with white on each shoulder. The animal measures about four feet from the snout to the root of the tail, and the tail is three feet long, resembling a large screen of coarse hair. When the animal lies down, it bends its head, which is about a foot in length, downwards and backwards between its fore-legs, slides these forwards and crosses them in front of the occiput, sinks its haunches by bending its hind-legs and bringing them close to the forefeet; then, leaning against the wall of its den on one side, it lays the broad tail over the other exposed side of the body, by a side-bend of that part, like the movement of a door or screen. Nothing is now visible of the animal but the long coarse hair of its natural and portable blanket. Those who may be so unlucky as to visit the animal when it is enjoying its siesta, will be unable to form any conception of its very peculiar shape and proportions—an oblong heap of a coarse, dry, greyish thatch is all that is visible. If, however, the keeper should luckily enter the den with any new dainty, in the shape of cockroaches, crickets, maggots, or meal-worms, to tempt the huge insectivore, the quick-hearing animal unveils its form by a sweeping movement of the thatch outwards; the tail that supports it rotating as if joined by a kind of door-hinge to the body: the head is drawn out from between the fore-limbs; the limbs are extended, and the entire

figure of this most grotesque of quadrupeds stalks forth. The limbs are short; the fore-limbs grow rather thicker to their stumpy ends, which look as if the feet had been amputated. Not any of the figures that have been published of the beast give this characteristic; they have all, in fact, been taken from stuffed specimens. No trace of claws are visible where they are usually seen, at the fore part of what seems to be the foot, as applied to the ground; for the part so applied is the outer side of the foot, which is covered by a thick prominent callosity: the four toes, with their claws, are bent inwards, and are of very unequal length. We were very curious to inspect the conformation of this most singular part of the animal, which is also the most formidable member, and, indeed, bears the sole weapon of defence which the beast possesses. The innermost toe, answering to the thumb on the fore-limb of the neighbouring chimpanzee, is the shortest, being about an inch in length, and with a claw of half an inch. The second toe is two inches two-thirds long, with a claw of about two inches in length. The third toe is shorter but much thicker than the second; it measures to the base of the claw one inch two-thirds, but it supports a strong, curved, sharp-pointed claw of three inches in length, and about the same in the circumference of its base: this is the instrument by which the ant-eater mainly effects the breach in the walls of the termite fortresses, which it habitually besieges in order to prey upon their constructors and defenders. The great claw is bent inwards during the ordinary progression of the animal, in order to preserve its point and trenchant border in sharp working trim. The fourth toe, of equal length with the third, is much less strong, and is terminated by a claw of only half an inch in length. A fifth toe seems to be buried in the outside callosity on which the animal rests its stumpy foot while walking. At the back part of the sole, or what should be called the palm, of the fore-foot, is a second large callosity, which receives the point of the great claw in its usual state of inward inflection. Against this callosity the animal presses the claw when it seizes any object therewith, and Azara avers that nothing can make the ant-bear relax its grasp of an object so seized.

Travellers affirm that the jaguar is sometimes found dead, unable to extricate itself from the tenacious grasp of one of these great ant-eaters, which it had unwittingly attacked. The muscular force of all the animals of the low mammalian order, to which the myrmecophage belong, resembles that of the cold-blooded reptiles in the force and endurance of the contractile action; and, like the reptiles, the sloths and ant-bears can endure long fasts. The hind-feet of the maned ant-bear are actually as short and stumpy as they appear to be: at their fore part are seen five short claws: three close together in the middle, and the first and fifth smaller and a little apart from the rest: a slight tendency to an inward bending may be noticed in this foot: the heel is long, and the whole sole is callous, the animal being what is called plantigrade.

It walks slowly, and as if with pain, with its body almost touching the ground. Azara says, that when it is hard pushed it strikes off into a sort of gallop, but cannot attain to half the speed of a man running. When overtaken, you may keep him at his own speed by well-administered kicks; but, if too hard pressed, he squats on his broad haunches and threatens with his powerful fore-claws. Woe to the unlucky or heedless aggressor whose arm or leg may be so seized! The strength of the grasp will sometimes break the bone: the ant-bear never voluntarily lets go, and the limb so grasped can be with difficulty extricated, even after the animal has been killed. To put the beast, however, *hors du combat*, no other weapon is needed than a stout stick: "with this," says Azara, "I have killed many, by dealing them blows on the head, and with the same security as if I had struck the trunk of a tree." With a mouth so small, and formed as above described, the ant-bear cannot bite; and if it could, it would

* "Histoire des Quadrupèdes du Paraguay," vol. i. p. 89.

be useless, for it has no teeth. In this respect, and in the suctorial character of the mouth, which resembles that of a kangaroo in the pouch, the ant-bear retains throughout life immature characters, which are transitory in higher organized quadrupeds. The eyes are small, rather sunk, the lids devoid of lashes, with a crescentic depression above and beneath them; the ears are rounded and short; the nostrils are large and crescentic; the tongue is slender, cylindrical, gradually tapering to a point, sixteen inches in length, and, when retracted, drawn into a sheath, which, with its muscles, extends beneath the neck and under the breast-bone.

Like a lawyer, the tongue is the chief organ by which this animal obtains its livelihood in its natural habitat. The warmer latitudes of South America, to which part of the world the ant-bear is peculiar, abound in forests and luxurious vegetation; the insects of the ant and termite tribes that subsist on wood, recent or decaying, equally abound. With one link in the chain of organic interdependencies is interlocked another; and, as the surplus vegetation sustains the surplus insect population, so a peculiar form of mammalian life finds the requisite conditions of existence in the task of restraining the undue multiplication of the wood-consuming insects. The great ant-bear seeks in preference the large and firmly-cemented fortifications of the white ants. It makes a breach in these dwellings by means of its powerful fore-claw; and as the ants swarm forth it licks them up, and introducing them into its mouth by rapid movements of protrusion and retraction of the long tongue, which is lubricated by an adhesive saliva.

"No one," says Azara, "need wonder that so large a beast should be able to derive its sustenance from such minute prey, who is made aware of the myriads of the insects each ant-nest contains; and that in some districts these nests are crowded so as almost to touch each other." He adds, that "some persons have preserved the ant-bear alive, and have succeeded in transporting him alive to Spain, by feeding him with crumbs of bread, morsels of meat, and flour and water."

The specimen now exhibiting at the Zoological Gardens was one of a pair, captured near the Rio Negro, in the Southern Province of Brazil, and shipped for England by some German travellers. The male died on the voyage; the female arrived about a fortnight ago, and was exhibited in Broad Street, St. Giles (*ante*, p. 940), until purchased by the spirited administrators of the Zoological Society's funds for the sum of 200l. The Council, in effecting this purchase, have shown that they comprehend their duties in a wide and liberal sense; and that not the least of these is to secure for exhibition, when possible, every rare animal which has not before been seen alive in England, irrespective of difficulties or expense in maintaining such acquisitions alive.

We trust that the able pencil of Wolff may be speedily employed in securing for science the singular proportions and attitudes of this most remarkable quadruped. The figure of the *Myrmecophaga jubata*, given by Buffon in the tenth volume of his great 'Natural History,' in 4to. plate 29, as well as that subsequently published by Dr. Shaw in the 'Museum Leverianum,' plate 12, were both derived from stuffed specimens, and have the inevitable defects and shortcomings of such. All other figures, so far as we know, have been copies of these.

In conclusion, we may remark that, large as the ant-bear is in comparison with the animals on which it naturally feeds, there appear to have been still larger ant-bears in the old times of South America. Fossil remains of nearly allied quadrupeds have been detected in both the freshwater deposits and bone-caves of the post-pliocene period in Buenos Ayres and Brazil.

Professor Owen detected in the fossil fragment of the back part of a skull, brought over, with other evidences of the extinct mammalia of South America, by Mr. Darwin, marks of affinities to the ant-eaters. The chief instrument in obtaining

food in the existing ant-bear is its tongue; and this singularly elongated organ is more remarkable for its muscular structure and prehensile power than for its sense of taste. Now it appears that the tongue, in mammalia, has two principal nerves, one for movement and one for sensation, and that these nerves emerge by separate holes from the brain-case. The motor nerve (ninth pair in man) is proportionally very large in the ant-bear, and so, therefore, is the hole in the skull for its passage.

The great Cuvier, in his canons for the interpretation of fossil remains, had laid it down that 'the first thing to be done in their study was to ascertain the form of the molar teeth.* But both jaws and teeth were wanting in the fossil under the consideration of our anatomist. He had to look out for other evidences. The first that seems to have arrested his attention was an unusually large and deep cavity in the portion of the skull to which the bone of the tongue is tied, and which led him to infer an unusual development of that organ. He next discovered 'a more certain proof of the extent of its soft and especially muscular parts, in the magnitude of the foramen for the passage of the lingual or motor nerve. This foramen' was 'fully twice the size of that which gave exit to the fifth nerve: its area was oval, and readily admitted the passage of the little finger.† Here, then, was evidence that the nervous matter destined to put in action the muscular part of the tongue was equal to half of that nervous matter which influences the whole muscular system of a man. No other known living animal offered any approximation to the peculiar proportions of the lingual nerves of the fossil animal in question, except the great anteater; but the size of the animal indicated by the fossil was three times that of the *Myrmecophaga jubata*. For this strange monster, thus partially restored from the ruins of a former world, Professor Owen proposed the name of *Glossotherium*, which signifies tongue-beast.

Independent and contemporaneous evidence of such a creature was given by Dr. Lend, a Danish naturalist resident in Brazil. In a 'View of the Fauna of Brazil, previous to the last Geological Revolution,' the author thus intimates his discovery:—'Among the fossil remains here (limestone caves of the province Minas) I have discovered traces of the last-named genus (*Myrmecophaga*), which are, however, too imperfect to enable us to determine more accurately its relation to existing species. The fragments indicate an animal of the size of an ox; wherefore I propose for it the name *Myrmecophaga gigantea*.‡ Were the insect prey of these antediluvian ant-eaters correspondingly gigantic? Another question. Are we really to see a live walrus in Regent's Park?

EXPLORATION OF NORTH AUSTRALIA.

Tunbridge Wells, October 4th.

SIR,—As you have favoured me by inserting in your previous number, an extract from my last anniversary address to the Royal Geographical Society, relating to the exploration of North Australia, a subject in which I have for many years taken a deep interest, I beg to inform you that the first copies of that address which were printed (from one of which you no doubt quoted), contained an erratum. Although the mistake was immediately rectified by myself, and does not appear in the official copies, the reproduction of it in your Journal requires that it should be noticed publicly. In the paragraph alluded to, the accidental omission of the word 'Glenelg' and the misplacement of the word 'Victoria' seemed to identify two streams, which I well knew were widely separated from each other.

The paragraph as corrected stands thus.—"Of the north (of Australia) we are little more in-

formed than when Grey and Lushington pushed their gallant adventure up the fertile banks of the Glenelg river, or when Wickham and Stokes ascended the noble Victoria stream for some distance, and laid down its soundings."

All my old scientific friends know that many years ago I took a warm part in promoting the researches of the then young officers Grey and Lushington, who named the principal river which they ascended after Lord Glenelg, then H. M. Secretary of the Colonies, who in employing those brave and intelligent men set an example of liberality in extending geographical knowledge, which happily has been now followed by the Duke of Newcastle.

In thanking you and the other members of the public press who have approved of the liberal conduct of the Government in supporting the wish of geographers to open out the fertile regions of North Australia to British enterprise, and in wishing the expedition all success in their efforts to explore the country between the Victoria and the Albert, and other streams which flow into the Gulf of Carpentaria, I remain, &c.

RODERICK I. MURCHISON.

TOPICS OF THE WEEK.

THE following welcome communication, announcing the safety of Commander Maclure of the *Investigator*, and the return of Lieut. Cresswell along with Commander Inglefield, after having passed out of Behring's into Davis' Straits through the Arctic Sea, has reached us from the Admiralty at the moment of our going to press, and will receive further elucidation in the 'Times':—

Admiralty, Oct. 7.

"Commander Inglefield, who, it will be remembered, was dispatched in her Majesty's steam-ship *Phoenix* in the spring of the year with supplies for Sir Edward Belcher's squadron, arrived at the Admiralty to-day, having left the *Phoenix* at Thurso, N.B. Commander Inglefield brings no intelligence of Sir John Franklin's expedition. He has, however, succeeded in depositing supplies as directed, and we are happy to say is accompanied by Lieut. Cresswell of the *Investigator*, with dispatches from Commander Maclure; thus enabling us to satisfy the public and the friends of those embarked in the *Investigator*, concerning which ship considerable anxiety had existed as to her safety. The Breadalbane transport, which accompanied the *Phoenix*, was totally wrecked by a nip of the ice—crew saved and brought home in the *Phoenix*. It is concluded from Sir Edward Belcher's dispatches that that officer would endeavour to retrace his steps this season to Beechy Island to winter. It is further to be gathered from these dispatches that Lieutenant Cresswell had completed the passage between the two oceans, having passed into the Arctic Sea by Behring's Straits and returned home by Davis' Straits."

The publishing trade begins to show signs of activity. Among the new literary announcements we observe vols. v. and vi. of Moore's 'Memoirs, Journal, and Correspondence'; and vols. iii. and iv. of 'Memorials and Correspondence of Charles James Fox,' both edited by Lord John Russell; a translation of M. Guizot's 'History of Oliver Cromwell and the English Commonwealth'; 'Travels in Siberia,' by S. S. Hill, Esq.; 'Travels on the Amazon and Rio Negro,' by A. F. Wallace, Esq.; 'Memoirs of Rajah Sir James Brooke,' in a series of letters to John C. Templer, Esq.; 'Old England and New England,' by Alfred Bunn, Esq.; 'The Rifle and the Hound in Ceylon,' by S. W. Baker, Esq.; 'Reminiscences of a Huntsman,' by the Hon. Grantley F. Berkeley; 'History of the Bourbons,' by E. Eyre Crowe, Esq.; 'Memoirs of England in the Reign of George III.,' by J. Henneage Jesse; 'Lives of the Archbishops of Canterbury'; 'The Russian Shores of the Black Sea in the Autumn of 1852,' by Laurence Oliphant, Esq.; 'Narrative of a Journey through Syria and Palestine in 1851-2,' by Lieut. Van de Velde; the

* "La première chose à faire dans l'étude d'un animal fossile est de reconnaître la forme de ses dents molaires."

† Fossil Mammalia of the Voyage of the Beagle, 1840, p. 58.

‡ 'Magazine of Natural History,' new series, 1840, p. 21.

second volume of Sir Archibald Alison's 'History of Europe, from the Fall of Napoleon to the Accession of Louis Napoleon,' &c. &c.

Mr. Bentley has at length resolved to make a formal tilt at the old orthodox price of new Novels. He has this week issued a circular announcing that after this day all New and Original Novels and Romances, by the most distinguished writers, will be published at *two-thirds less* than the amount charged at present for such works. The 3-vol. novel hitherto published at a guinea and a-half is to be 10s. 6d., the 2-vol. novel 7s., and the 1-vol. novel 3s. 6d.; and the publisher engages that they will continue to be printed in the same neat style. Whether this immense fall in the staple commodity of the literary money-market is to be attributed to the menacing condition of affairs in the East we cannot say. It is certain that the facilities for novel-reading will be very much promoted thereby, and we shall have to be proportionably critical in testing their character and quality.

The exertions of Mr. Lowe and the other members of the local committee have been crowned with success, and the Midland Counties Observatory is to be established. At a special meeting of the Town Council, held in the Guildhall at Nottingham, it was unanimously resolved that three acres of land on the Forest, or six acres on Mapperly Plain, be presented to the Committee; with the condition that, should any other site be preferred, the Corporation be allowed to purchase back their land for 500*l*. With this grant, and Mr. Lawson's donation of 1000*l*., and the 2000*l*. granted by the Treasury, the sum of 10,000*l*. has been made up, to within nearly 1000*l*., under which circumstances the Committee have guaranteed the remainder, and a deputation headed by Mr. Lowe has been appointed to wait on Mr. Lawson at Bath, the munificent donor of the instruments, and also on the Lords of the Treasury, to complete the arrangements. The Lords of the Treasury, in responding to the application for aid, stated that they did not consider there was any public call for an additional observatory for astronomical purposes, but that for meteorological observations the institution might prove of great national benefit, and that the grant would be given on the understanding that particular attention would be paid to this department. The advice of Professor Airy and of Sir John Herschel was taken by the Treasury. It is understood that Mapperly Plain will be the site selected.

The report has been published of an important copyright case recently decided at Edinburgh—the Atlas Company of Scotland against Fullarton and Company, who were charged with pirating maps of Messrs. W. and A. Keith Johnston, geographers and engravers. The summons under which the action was raised, maintained that the maps in the 'Companion Atlas' of Fullarton were compiled from the previously-published 'National Atlas' of Johnston. The defence consisted in a simple denial of the charges of piracy, without any statement as to the sources of information to which they had recourse in the compilation of the atlas. After many witnesses had been examined, and able arguments by counsel, the jury unanimously brought in a verdict in favour of the plaintiffs, or pursuers as they are called in Scotch law, with damages of 200*l*. The damages were laid at 1000*l*. The defence was ingeniously conducted, and served to reduce the amount in the summons, but the case was proved to the satisfaction of the jury. The summing up by the Lord President gave a clear and fair statement of the case, and contained some judicious remarks on the general question of copyright.

The Russian government is causing an examination to be made of the Kourgans, or old tombs in Red Russia and other parts of the Empire. Several have already been examined: in one a seated skeleton, and beneath it a skeleton at full length, were found. They are supposed to be the remains of a man of rank and his slave; as it was formerly the custom to bury a slave alive with a

deceased master, in order that he might "take care of the corpse."

Since the death of M. Arago the Academy of Sciences of Paris have lost another member, M. Auguste Saint-Hilaire, of the Section of Botany; and the Académie des Beaux-Arts have lost a member of the Section of Musical Composition, M. Georges Onslow.

The Manchester subscription statue of Sir Robert Peel has this week been erected on its pedestal in front of the Royal Infirmary. It is in bronze, cast at Robinson and Cotton's foundry at Pimlico, from the design of Marshall, Associate of the Royal Academy. The marble statue by Gibson, in Westminster Abbey, is justly admired, yet we cannot but think that the classical idea has in this case been carried to extreme; the long loose toga suggesting little of the practical business-like character of our great financial statesman. A plain English dress might be deemed a desecration of Westminster Abbey, but there might have been some nearer approach in the drapery to the national and personal characteristics of the man.

A plan has been started by Mr. Robinson, the auctioneer of Bond Street, of holding a Monthly Sale of Pictures, Drawings, and Works of Modern Artists, which seems worthy of encouragement. We have artists in this country, thanks to the discernment of amateurs, and their appreciation of our unrivalled British school of painting, whose works fetch more money by public auction than by private commission. We need look no further back than a season to point out instances of pictures fetching much higher prices when submitted to competition than were realised to the painter. The circular put forth by Mr. Robinson is a fair and explicit statement of his plan, and it impresses the reader with a feeling that he is fully alive to the importance of a periodical sale of this kind being well conducted. He undertakes to receive no work except direct from the artist, or from such a source as will enable him to guarantee its authenticity; and promises to afford every facility to those who may become contributors. It is proposed that the first sale shall take place on Thursday, November 3rd.

A marble slab, recording the birth and death of Weber, was fixed a few days ago in front of the house in which he was born at Euten, in the Grand Duchy of Holstein. The ceremony was attended by all the local authorities, and by deputations from literary and musical societies for miles around.

A ballet called *Celia and Mysis* has been produced at the Grand Opera at Paris. It is laid in Rome at the time of Nero, and is very splendid as a spectacle; but there is something positively displeasing to every one of classical recollections at seeing the fine Roman costume figuring in a ballet, and Roman dignitaries, even of the falling Empire, cutting capers. The plot is as absurd and improbable as such things always are. Mdlle. Priora and Mdlle. Guy-Stephan are the principal danseuses. Another new ballet is talked of at the Grand Opera for October next; and there is an *on dit* that Meyerbeer's long-expected *Africaine* will be put into rehearsal at the beginning of the year, Madame Tedesco taking the principal part.

The Olympic Theatre opens on Monday week, under the management of Mr. Alfred Wigan, with a new one-act play by Mr. Planché, and a new three-act drama. The list of the company includes the names of Mrs. Stirling and Miss P. Horton.

At the Porte Saint-Martin at Paris a grand fairy piece, called *Les Sept Merveilles du Monde*, has been brought out. It is one of the most splendid spectacle pieces ever seen in Paris; it is a *merveille* of scenic and decorative art. Verily the *mise en scène* amongst our neighbours has risen high indeed; but on the other hand, unfortunately, the drama has proportionately declined.

Jules Janin announces in his last Monday's *feuilleton*, that London will no longer have a

French theatre, Mr. Mitchell having definitively despaired of success, and it not being likely that any one can succeed when he has failed, or can even be disposed to make the attempt.

The Italian company at St. Petersburg for the approaching season comprises the elder Lablache, Tamberlik, Calzolari, and Madame de la Grange; with Ricci as conductor of the orchestra.

PROCEEDINGS OF SOCIETIES.

ASTRONOMICAL.—April 8th.—G. B. Airy, Esq., President, in the chair. M. Littrow, Director of the Imperial Observatory at Vienna, was balloted for, and unanimously elected an Associate of the Society. 'On new Tables of the Moon's Parallax, to be substituted for those of Burckhardt,' by J. C. Adams, Esq. M.A., F.R.S., &c. &c. "The importance of an accurate knowledge of the moon's parallax is very evident. No observation of the moon's place can be compared with the tables, or turned to any practical use, without undergoing a preliminary reduction, of which the amount of the parallax is the most important element. Now the same theory by which the angular motion of the moon round the earth is determined, gives likewise the form of the orbit, and therefore the proportion between the parallaxes at different times; hence, as the theory is sufficiently perfect to represent the place of the moon within 10', it cannot be doubted that it would be competent to give the variations of the parallax within a small fraction of a second, provided the mean parallax were known. To determine this, however, by theory, it is necessary to know, in addition to the elements furnished by observations of the moon's motion, the ratio of the moon's mass to that of the earth. Hence, conversely, if the mean value of the parallax be deduced from corresponding observations of the moon's declination, made at distant points on the earth's surface, one means is afforded of finding the ratio of the masses. The most recent determination of the parallax by means of observations of this kind is contained in a paper by Mr. Henderson, in the tenth volume of the 'Memoirs of the Royal Astronomical Society,' and is founded on his own observations made at the Cape of Good Hope, combined with corresponding observations at Greenwich and Cambridge. In this paper Mr. Henderson compares the parallaxes deduced from observation with those calculated by means of the tables both of Burckhardt and Damoiseau. It is remarkable that he finds a difference of 1".3 in the value of the mean parallax, according as one set of tables or the other is employed in the comparison; and not knowing which value to prefer, he adopts the mean of the two for his final result. If we consider, however, that the only part of this process which depends on the tables consists in the reduction of the actual parallaxes at the times of observation to the mean value, it is plain that so large a difference in the mean of thirty-four observations can only arise from intolerable errors in the periodic terms of parallax given by one of the two sets of tables. The parallax in Damoiseau's tables is given at once in the form in which it is furnished by theory, but that in Burckhardt's tables is adapted to his peculiar form of the arguments, and requires transformation in order to be compared with the former. When this was done, I found that several of the minor equations of parallax deduced from Burckhardt differed completely from their theoretical values given by Damoiseau. On further inquiry, I discovered that the difference between Burckhardt's equations of parallax and those of Bürg and Damoiseau had been long since remarked by Clausen, in a comparative analysis of the three sets of lunar tables given in the seventeenth volume of the 'Astronomische Nachrichten,' but no notice appears to have been taken of this remark. With regard to the parallax, Burckhardt professes to have followed the theory of Laplace; but this agrees very closely with that of Damoiseau, so that errors have evidently been committed by him in the transformation of Laplace's formula. These appear to have originated

in the following manner:—In the formation of Burckhardt's arguments of evection and variation the mean longitude of the sun is employed. Now four of the errors in the coefficients of the minor equations may be accounted for, by supposing him to have erroneously employed the true instead of the mean longitude of the sun in forming the above-mentioned arguments. In another of these equations, the coefficient is taken with a wrong sign, and in another a wrong argument is employed. A strange fatality seems to have attended all Burckhardt's calculations respecting the moon's parallax. In the 'Connaissance des Temps' for the year 15 of the Republic, he gives a comparison between the values furnished by Mayer's and Laplace's theories, and he concludes that the error of the former may sometimes amount to 7". But this difference is caused almost wholly by an error in his own transformation of Laplace's expression. In the formation of Mayer's arguments of evection and variation the true longitude of the sun is employed, but Burckhardt appears to have inadvertently used the mean longitude instead of it; an error which is the exact converse of the one above noticed with respect to his own tables. After examining Burckhardt's tables of parallax, I was naturally led to scrutinise more closely the results of the theories of Damoiseau, Plana, and Pontécoulant, with respect to the same subject. Although the differences between these were very trifling when compared with the errors of Burckhardt, still they were greater than we had a right to expect, considering the close agreement which existed with respect to the equations of longitude. In the theories of Damoiseau and Plana, the expression for the projection of the moon's radius vector on the elliptic in terms of her true longitude is required in order to find the relation between that longitude and the time, and therefore no pains have been spared to obtain it with accuracy; but in the subsequent operations and transformations necessary in order to deduce the expression for the parallax in terms of the time, the same care has not been employed. In Pontécoulant's theory the time is taken as the independent variable, and, consequently, the analytical expression for the parallax in the form required is obtained immediately, and is developed to as great an extent as the corresponding expression for the longitude; yet in the conversion of his formula into numbers he neglects all the terms beyond the fifth order, so that several of the resulting coefficients are sensibly in error. I have endeavoured to supply these defects and omissions. In the seventeenth volume of the 'Astronomische Nachrichten,' M. Hansen gives the expression which he has obtained for the logarithm of the sine of the horizontal parallax, by means of his new method of treating the lunar theory. I have transformed this expression with the care which its great value deserves, so as to compare it with the results of the former theories. The agreement thus found between the several theories is most satisfactory, the difference of the separate values of each coefficient and the general mean rarely amounting to a hundredth of a second. There are only two instances in which this amount is much exceeded. One of these relates to the constant of parallax, the value of which, given by M. Hansen's method, is 0".06 less than the corresponding value found from the same fundamental data by the other methods, and the second relates to the term whose argument in Damoiseau's notation is $t + z$, the coefficient being 0".146 according to Damoiseau and Plana, 0".140 according to Pontécoulant, and 0".181 according to Hansen. The values of the constant of parallax which I have deduced from the theories of Damoiseau, Plana, and Pontécoulant, agree perfectly with one another, and from the particular examination which I have given to this subject I am induced to place considerable reliance on the result. It is possible that M. Hansen's definitive value of the constant may differ slightly from that which he has given in the paper above referred to. From the value of the constant of nutation found by M. Peters, it follows

that the ratio of the moon's mass to that of the earth is as 1 to 81.5 nearly. Employing this ratio, together with the dimensions of the earth according to Bessel, and the length of the seconds pendulum in latitude 35°, deduced from Mr. Baily's report on Foster's pendulum experiments, I find the value of the constant of parallax to be 3422".325. Now, Henderson, in the paper cited above, has found the value of the constant, by comparison with Damoiseau's table, to be 3422".46. It should, however, be remarked, that what the tables call the parallax, is more strictly the sine of the parallax converted into seconds of arc. In Henderson's calculations he has taken the tabular quantity to denote the parallax itself, so that the value found must be diminished by 0".15, in order to obtain the constant of the sine of the parallax. Thus the value deduced in this manner is 3422".31, —a result admirably agreeing with that just derived from theory. I have carefully transformed the expression for the parallax given by theory, so as to make it depend on Burckhardt's arguments of longitude, and from the resulting formula Mr. Farley has calculated the tables which are appended to this paper. Constants are added to the several equations, so as to render them always positive. The minor equations of equatoreal horizontal parallax are comprised in Table I.; Table II. contains the equation depending on the argument of evection; Table III. that depending on the argument of variation; and Table IV. that depending on the argument of anomaly. The formulae employed in their construction are the following, in which E denotes Burckhardt's argument of evection; V that of variation; and A that of anomaly; and the arguments of the minor equations are denoted by their numbers as in Burckhardt:—

$$\begin{aligned}
 0.34 &- 0.34 \cos (\text{Arg. } 1) \\
 1.73 &+ 1.73 \cos (\text{Arg. } 2) \\
 1.46 &+ 1.46 \cos (\text{Arg. } 4) \\
 0.87 &+ 0.87 \cos (\text{Arg. } 5) \\
 0.71 &- 0.71 \cos (\text{Arg. } 6) \\
 0.11 &- 0.11 \cos (\text{Arg. } 7) \\
 0.62 &- 0.62 \cos (\text{Arg. } 8) \\
 1.81 &- 0.05 \cos (\text{Arg. } 9) \\
 0.21 &- 0.21 \cos (\text{Arg. } 12) \\
 0.16 &- 0.16 \cos (\text{Arg. } 13) \\
 0.14 &+ 0.14 \cos (\text{Arg. } 16) \\
 0.12 &+ 0.12 \cos (\text{Arg. } 23) \\
 0.10 &+ 0.10 \cos (\text{Arg. } 25) \\
 36.81 &+ 37.22 \cos E + 0".41 \cos 2 E \\
 26.18 &- 0.94 \cos V + 26".34 \cos 2 V \\
 &+ 0".16 \cos 4 V \\
 55' 50.92 &+ 187.14 \cos A + 10".27 \cos 2 A \\
 &+ 0".64 \cos 3 A + 0".04 \cos 4 A
 \end{aligned}$$

In this formula, a few terms have been neglected, the largest of the coefficients of which does not exceed 0".08. The sum of the constants in this formula is 3422".29, slightly differing from what is called the constant of parallax, in consequence of the change in the form of development. For the sake of comparison I will here give the formula on which Burckhardt's own tables are constructed, which is as follows:—

$$\begin{aligned}
 0.4 &- 0.4 \cos (\text{Arg. } 1) \\
 0.8 &+ 0.8 \cos (\text{Arg. } 2) \\
 0.3 &+ 0.3 \cos (\text{Arg. } 4) \\
 0.8 &+ 0.8 \cos (\text{Arg. } 5) \\
 1.1 &+ 0.8 \cos (\text{Arg. } 6) \\
 0.6 &- 0.6 \cos (\text{Arg. } 8) \\
 1.8 &+ 1.8 \cos 2 (\text{Arg. } 9) \\
 0.7 &+ 0.7 \cos (\text{Arg. } 12) \\
 1.0 &+ 1.0 \cos (\text{Arg. } 13) \\
 43.0 &+ 37.4 \cos E + 0".4 \cos 2 E \\
 30.0 &- 1.0 \cos V + 26".3 \cos 2 V \\
 &+ 0".3 \cos 3 V \\
 55' 40.0 &+ 187.0 \cos A + 10".2 \cos 2 A \\
 &+ 0".5 \cos 3 A
 \end{aligned}$$

The sum of the constants in this formula is 3420".5. The errors of the coefficients of equations 2 and 12 arise from the mistake respecting the formation of the argument of variation before explained, and those of the coefficients of equations 4 and 13 from the similar mistake respecting the argument of evection. Equation 6 is taken with a wrong sign, and in the variation equation

3 V appears to be wrongly substituted for 4 V, though I find that the corresponding term, when reduced to Burckhardt's form, has a smaller coefficient. In consequence of the way in which most of these errors originate, their amount will be generally greatest in March and September, and least about the beginning of January and July, when the sun's mean and true places coincide. The total error of Burckhardt's tables may amount to nearly 6", independently of the change in the value of the constant. Looking at the accuracy of modern observations, it is easy to imagine to what an extent the value of comparisons between observed and tabular places may be diminished by their being liable to an error of this kind. In determining differences of longitude by means of occultations, it is plain that the results may be considerably affected by such an error in the parallax. It has often been remarked, that differences of longitude obtained by means of different occultations are not so consistent with each other as might be expected from the precise character of the observation, and I have no doubt that a great part of the discrepancy is to be attributed to the use of an erroneous parallax. Mr. Maclear's observations at the Cape, combined with European observations, would doubtless furnish most valuable materials for a new determination of the constant of parallax, care being of course taken to employ correct tables in the reductions; and such a work would be a useful contribution to astronomy. In order to facilitate these and similar objects, Mr. Stratford has calculated the parallaxes from my tables for each Greenwich mean noon in the years 1840-1855, and has thus obtained the corrections to be applied to the corresponding quantities given in the 'Nautical Almanac.' These corrections are embodied in tables which are appended to the present paper. Subsequently to 1855, the moon's parallax given in the 'Nautical Almanac' is calculated from my tables." Having made these preliminary remarks, Mr. Adams proceeds to give his new tables of the moon's parallax. These are succeeded by the corrections to be applied to the calculated parallaxes in the 'Nautical Almanac' for the years 1840-55, as above referred to.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Kreuznach, Oct. 1st.

HAVING had the misfortune to find most of the studios closed in Düsseldorf, and the artists absent, I proceeded to Cologne, a town which, in spite of its dirt, has for me a great attraction. There is an air of bustle and activity about it, which you rarely see in Germany. This was remarkably evident this year, partly from the unusual number of tourists who have filled this summer all the German bath-rooms to overflowing, and partly from the tide of emigration which here, as in Ireland, seems to know no decrease. Cologne is one of the central points for the 'German Auswanderer' to take shipping, and one sometimes sees the quays here heaped up with boxes and bundles of every shape and hue, all marked with the same inscription,—"Ueber Havre nach New York." This year, however, the meeting of the German Architects, which took place last summer at Brunswick, was held at Cologne, and from the number of the members and visitors, and the consequent feasts and fêtes, added much to the gay appearance of the town. There were, besides visitors, 316 members present, being just 100 more than last year at Brunswick; they visited several private houses in the neighbourhood of Cologne to examine their architectural structure, and were much pleased with the laying out of the gardens; besides inspecting several of the curious old churches in Cologne, they made a minute and very interesting examination of the Cathedral, under the guidance of Herr Domwerkmeyer Schmidt. There has been within the last ten years an immense deal done, which a mere casual observer would not remark; the number of workmen has been considerably increased, and Herr Schmidt promised us that in eight years he would have all the main part of the building finished and the temporary roof removed

Having ascended the scaffold of the central aisle, the hungry architects were most agreeably surprised by the vision of a long table spread out with all the good things, solid and liquid, which the good old city could afford. The worthy 'Baumeister' knew his countrymen well, and that whilst there are no men in the world who cultivate their minds or tax their brains more than the Germans, yet they do not like their digestive organs to lie idle, but generally enforce on it a proportionate, or I might even say disproportionate, labour. In the present instance the 'Society of Architects' performed their duties manfully, and 'Hoch Lebens' and songs filled the air. The meeting at Cologne has been one of the most successful since the formation of the society. Dresden is fixed as the rendezvous for the next year's gathering. I went from Cologne to Kreuznach, a watering-place not far from the Rhine; the heat reached one day to 91° of Fahrenheit in the shade, and the wine-growers begin to have some hopes of a good year at last. Kreuznach is rising rapidly in importance from the discovery of Doctor Oscar Prieger, one of the resident physicians, of the influence the Kreuznach waters exercise over certain internal complaints, particularly of females, and which have hitherto baffled medical science. The salines from which the water is procured are picturesquely situated in a neighbouring valley. At first sight they have the appearance of a number of huge Cyclopean walls, built up along and across the valley and on the sides of the hills without aim or object, not being even connected together. On closer inspection, however, I found that they were wooden scaffoldings, some hundred feet long, and from about sixty to a hundred and twenty feet high, and about twenty feet wide, tightly packed from top to bottom with brambles. The water from the salt springs is pumped up to the top of these erections by means of wheels turned by a neighbouring stream, and allowed to trickle through the fagots. The liquor which is deposited in the tanks under these fagots is placed in pans, and subjected to the action of fire. The ordinary salt used in culinary purposes crystallizes and leaves behind a yellow briny deposit, which contains the mineral properties of the waters in a highly-concentrated form, and which, under the name of 'Mutterlauge,' is used medicinally, being mixed with the water in the baths and applied in fomentations. It is very efficacious in scrofulous cases, and is a powerful absorbent. Large quantities of it are sent every year from Kreuznach to all parts of Europe. There was formerly a large manufacture of iodine here, which supplied the greater part of Europe; but the workmen died by wholesale from the bronchitis induced by the irritating nature of the vapour, and the Government have suppressed the manufacture. Kreuznach is also interesting from being the residence of Kauer the sculptor. Kauer is a native of Dresden, but has for many years taken up his quarters at Kreuznach, and a well-filled studio shows that he has not spent his time idly. He follows quite a different path from most sculptors, and, as it seems to me, by properly appreciating his own powers, has escaped the failure and disappointment so often the result of "that vaulting ambition which o'erleaps itself." Here you have no naked Venuses or proud Apollos, no Cupids bending their bows, or half-dressed ladies eternally stepping in or out of imaginary baths, or any other of the similar plagiarisms, of caricatures of the antique, which catch the eye on entering most of the studios in Europe. Kauer, on the contrary, takes almost all his subjects from German history, or legendary lore, or from the Scriptures. His object has been to bring his art more within the reach of a humbler class of people than those who can generally afford such artistic luxuries, and he formed the idea of worthily representing such subjects as the peasantry and middle classes of Germany were most familiar with. He seems to me to have thoroughly succeeded, and his works are now making their way, not only all through Germany, but even into France and England. He has, poor man, like all

artists who must work for a livelihood, to bear the periodical infliction of bust-making; but, with the exception of these perpetuations of insignificant and meaningless countenances, his studio is full of beautifully-executed and historically interesting works. I think he would, however, succeed better in his object if he put a lower price upon his works. The announcement in my last letter of Carl Devrient's death was premature. I met his brother afterwards, who told me that the mistake into which all the German press had fallen arose from the death of the actor's favourite horse, but the man himself was quite well. On the 4th of October there is to be a sale at Cologne of the collection of Peter Leven. It is one of the finest archaeological collections existing, and contains besides an immense quantity of Roman gems, cameos, and lamps, and Chinese and Japan articles, one of the finest and more carefully acquired museums of glass and fictile vases of the middle ages. The catalogue contains, exclusive of the drinking goblets, 1295 articles, and the sale is likely to attract a crowded attendance of virtuosi and dealers. Wagner's 'Tanhäuser' and 'Lohengrin' has been given twenty times this season at Wiesbaden, and every night drawn crowded houses; indeed it may be said to have saved the house from bankruptcy, as the available funds were reduced to the lowest ebb. Duke Max of Bavaria, the father of the future Empress of Austria, is an artist and poet of no mean order. His pieces are given frequently at the theatre at Munich, and, quite independent of the prestige of the author, generally attract well-filled houses. The Duke generally takes his scenes from Bavarian highlands, with which his passionate love of chase has made him very familiar. Out of the thirty-one symphonies sent in for competition for the prize of the gold medal, worth 1500 francs, at Brussels, No. 31, with the motto, "In magnis voluisse sat est," was declared the victor; it is by Hugo Ulrich of Berlin, and is much lauded as a composition. Nothing can better attest the love of music prevalent in Belgium than the fact that there are in the country 662 societies for vocal and instrumental music. The actress belonging to the theatre at St. Petersburg, who was this summer struck dead by lightning on the beach at Heligoland, was the sister of Frau von Lavallade, a well-known actress of Berlin.

VARIETIES.

American Book Sales.—The demand for books this fall indicates a very healthy state of affairs among the trade. Notwithstanding the large trade sales in the spring, the catalogues of both the Philadelphia and New York auction-houses have been larger than ever before. The sale by Messrs. Thomas & Sons was unprecedented in that city, not only as regards the quantity of books sold, but also in the prices brought. The New York sale, under the superintendence of Messrs. Bangs, Brother & Co., is now progressing very favourably. Their catalogue extends, this year, through 500 pages, which is larger than ever before. The attendance is good, and bidding active, showing a desire on the part of the trade to keep their customers well supplied with literature during the ensuing winter. The regular sale of English and holiday-books is advertised to take place early in November, and we anticipate that a very complete assortment of English books will then be offered. The English publishers are having their eyes thoroughly opened to the extensive market which this country affords. The large number of our American booksellers who have been abroad this season, and their heavy purchases, are very good evidence of what can be done. The demand for American books abroad during the present year is almost incredible compared with the sales of preceding years. We were informed during our recent trip, and our personal investigations confirmed the statement, that the books which are sold in largest numbers, on the different railroads are reprints of American works.—*American Literary Gazette.*

Museum of Ornamental Art.—The collection of objects of art, which has been for some time open to the public at Marlborough-house, in connection with the Department of Science and Art, having lately received some important additions, the exhibition in its augmented form was open to private view on Saturday. Amongst the most interesting objects now for the first time exhibited, may be mentioned some curious specimens of Italian earthenware, and a variety of porcelain from the manufactories of England, Naples, Bavaria, Spain, and Holland. There are also some beautiful specimens of early porcelain from France, and in the collection of china there are, it is said, a thousand new pieces, the majority of them being extremely striking and unique. In the compartment which is adorned by Her Majesty's magnificent collection of Sèvres porcelain, is a variety of pieces of early English china, so arranged as to indicate the gradual progress which has been made in this branch of useful and ornamental art. The Oriental pottery has been subjected to an entirely new arrangement, and its present classification renders it one of the most important and instructive features in the museum; whilst the Venetian glass, which is displayed in close proximity to it, is especially remarkable for its beauty and antiquity. The works in ivory, horn, and bone, mixed materials, basket-work, and marble, have also received some valuable additions, whilst the jewellery and enamels on metals have been so far augmented and improved, that they now enter very largely into the most important and attractive feature of the exhibition.—*Journ. Soc. Arts.*

Another Comet.—The comet discovered at Berlin on the 11th of last month promises to be almost as conspicuous as the one which has just left us. On Monday morning it was distinctly visible to the naked eye; the head equalled in brightness a star of the fourth magnitude, and the tail could be traced about one degree.—*Times.*

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

In consequence of the loss last week, by fire, of our reports of the meeting of the British Association, we must ask leave to refer our readers for an account of the proceedings of the remaining sections to the columns of our contemporary, the *Athenæum*, Nos. 1351 to 1354.

A. P., Antwerp, Suggestions in reference to Scandinavian literature, received with thanks.

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Tables of increasing Rates have been formed upon a plan peculiar to this Company, from which the following is an extract.

Premium to Insure £100 at death.						
Age	First Year.	Second Year.	Third Year.	Fourth Year.	Fifth Year.	Remainder of Life.
20	£ s. d. 0 18 2	£ s. d. 0 19 2	£ s. d. 1 0 3	£ s. d. 1 1 5	£ s. d. 1 2 8	£ s. d. 1 13 2
30	1 1 1	1 3 2	1 6 8	1 8 4	1 10 0	2 10 3
40	1 11 10	1 13 9	1 15 10	1 18 1	2 0 6	3 8 3

Specimen of the Bonuses added to Policies to 1851, to which will be added a prospective Bonus of one per cent. per annum on the sum insured and previously declared Bonuses, in the event of death before December, 1858, and in which prospective Bonus all new Insurers on the Profit scale will participate.

Date of Policy.	Sum Insured.	Bonuses.	Amount.
1825	£ 5000	£ s. d. 19 2 4	£ s. d. 6926 2 4
1828	2000	7 9 9	2779 9 9
1828	3000	10 8 2	4038 2 2

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FOR MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE ANNUITIES, &c., &c., Gracechurch Street, London. Established December, 1853.
Chairman.—SAMUEL HAYBURN LEECH, Esq.
Deputy Chairman.—CHARLES LUSHINGTON, Esq.

THE THIRD DIVISION OF PROFITS MADE UP TO 20TH NOVEMBER LAST.
The Directors have the satisfaction to announce that the amount of surplus profit in the Life Assurance Department accrued in the five years ending 20th November, 1852 (after providing for the present value of all the liabilities in that class), was £244,575, which has been duly apportioned amongst the members, either in reductions of their premiums for the next five years, ending on the 20th November, 1857, or by bonuses added to the sums assured. The reductions vary from 5 per cent. to 89 per cent. from the original premiums charged, according to the age of the party, and the time the policy has been in force, and the bonuses added from 50 per cent. to 75 per cent., on the premiums paid during the last five years.

The number of policies issued to the 20th Nov. last was 14,556. The annual income, £206,700 11s. 5d. And the amount of capital, £275,668 6s. 7d. Arising entirely from the premiums paid by members, who are themselves the sole proprietors, and among whom, alone, the whole of the profits are divided.

The Directors have also to announce that from this date no charge will be made FOR STAMP DUTIES ON POLICIES. A clause was inserted in the Income Tax Act, passed in the last Session of Parliament, allowing persons to deduct from their returns to the Commissioners the amount of all premiums paid for assurances or deferred annuities effected on their own lives, and of that of their wives, to the extent of one-sixth part of the whole amount of their profits and gains.

ALL PERSONS INSURED IN THIS OFFICE MAY AVAIL THEMSELVES OF THIS PRIVILEGE. This advantage can only be made by deduction from the assessment of profits and gains, under schedule D or E, and not in any way interfering with the Premiums to be paid to the Institution.

MEMBERS may obtain Loans on the security of their Policies to the amount of the value of each Policy. Members are reminded that the Premiums due on the 1st October next must be paid within thirty days from that date. The new Prospectus, together with the last report of the Directors, may be had on application at the Office.
Sept. 18, 1853. JOSEPH MARSH, Secretary.

SOLICITORS' AND GENERAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY, 52, Chancery Lane, London.

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL, ONE MILLION.

THIS SOCIETY PRESENTS THE FOLLOWING ADVANTAGES—The security of a subscribed Capital of ONE MILLION. Exemption of the Assured from all liability. Premiums affording particular advantages to young lives. Participating and Non-Participating Premiums. In the former EIGHTY PER CENT. or FOUR-FIFTHS of the profits are divided amongst the Assured *triennially*, either by way of addition to the sum assured, or in diminution of Premium, at their option.

No deduction is made from the four-fifths of the profits for interest on Capital, for a Guarantee Fund, or on any other account. POLICIES FREE OF STAMP DUTY AND INDISPUTABLE, except in case of fraud.

At the General Meeting, on the 31st of May last, A BONUS was declared of nearly TWO PER CENT. per annum on the amount assured, or at the rate of from THIRTY to upwards of SIXTY per cent. on the Premiums paid.

POLICIES share in the Profits, even if ONE PREMIUM ONLY has been paid.

Next DIVISION OF PROFITS in 1856. The Directors meet on Thursdays, at 2 o'clock. Assurances may be effected by applying on any other day, between the hours of 10 and 4, at the Office of the Society, where prospectuses and all other requisite information can be obtained.

CHARLES JOHN GILL, Secretary.

LONDON ASSURANCE CORPORATION,

ESTABLISHED AD. 1720,
FOR LIFE, FIRE, AND MARINE ASSURANCES.
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John Alves Arbuthnot, Esq., Sub-Governor.
James Dowle, Esq., Deputy-Governor.

Directors.
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Edward Harnage, Esq.
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George Probyn, Esq.
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Thomas Trotter, Esq.
Thomas Wedding, Esq.
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Actuary.—Peter Hardy, Esq., F.R.S.

WEST END OFFICE, 10, REGENT STREET.
Committee—Two Members of the Court in rotation, and Henry Kingscote, Esq., and John Tidd Pratt, Esq.
Superintendent.—Philip Secones, Esq.

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The high character which this ancient Corporation has maintained during NEARLY A CENTURY AND A HALF, secures to the Public a full and faithful declaration of Profits. The Corporation bears the whole EXPENSES OF MANAGEMENT, the giving to the Assured, in consequence of the protection afforded by its CORPORATE FUND, advantages equal to those of any system of Mutual Assurance.

Premiums may be paid Yearly, Half-Yearly, or Quarterly. No entrance-fee or other charge beyond the Policy Stamp. The fees of MEDICAL EXAMINERS are PAID by the Corporation.

A Policy may be effected for as small a sum as £20, and progressively increased up to £50, without the necessity of a new Policy. Every facility will be given for the transfer or exchange of Policies, or of any other suitable arrangement will be made for the convenience of the Assured.

Prospectuses and all other information may be obtained by either a written or personal application to the Actuary or Superintendent of the West End Office.

JOHN LAURENCE, Secretary.

PELICAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY,

Established in 1757.
70, Lombard Street, City; and 57, Charing Cross, Westminster.

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Richard Fayer, Esq.
Jas. A. Gordon, M.D., F.R.S.
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Thomas Hodgson, Esq.
Henry Lancelot Holland, Esq.
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C. Hampden Turner, Esq., F.R.S.
Matthew Whiting, Esq.

NOTICE.
The present 8-tenennial period, prior to the next Division of Profits, will terminate on the 2nd July, 1854. All Policies now effected (and afterwards continued in force for five years) on the Participating Scale of Premium, will share in the surplus.
For prospectuses and forms of proposal apply at the offices as above, or to any of the Company's Agents.

ROBERT TUCKER, Secretary.

THE INDISPUTABLE LIFE POLICY COMPANY, No. 72, Lombard Street, London.

TRUSTEES.
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THE POLICIES of this Company being INDISPUTABLE, (in terms of the Deed of Constitution duly registered), are TRANSFERABLE SECURITIES, their validity not being dependent, as in the case of ordinary Policies, upon the import of past and perhaps forgotten circumstances, and office documents. Used as FAMILY PROVISIONS, they relieve the Assured from all doubt and anxiety as to the future.

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The Society is established on the tried and approved principle of Mutual Assurance. The funds are accumulated for the exclusive benefit of the Policy-holders, under their own immediate superintendence and control. The Profits are divided annually, and applied in reduction of the current Premiums.

The Annual General Meeting of this Society was held on the 28th of May, 1853, when a report of the business for the last year was presented, exhibiting a statement of most satisfactory progress. It appeared, that whilst the Assurances effected in 1851 were 41 per cent. beyond those of 1850, nearly 70 per cent. beyond those of 1849, and 130 per cent. beyond those of 1848, the Assurances effected in 1852 considerably exceeded those of 1851, 325 new Policies having been issued in that year, covering Assurances to the extent of £106,000, the yearly premiums on which amounted to £204,618s. It also appeared that the transactions of the first five months of the present year were greater than those of the corresponding months of 1852, or of any preceding year; whilst during the whole period referred to, the claims arising from deaths were much below their estimated amount. A resolution was thereupon passed, continuing a reduction of 30 per cent. on the premiums payable on all Policies on the participating scale, on which five or more annual premiums had been previously paid. Credit is allowed for half the Annual Premiums for the first five years.

The following Table exemplifies the effect of the present reduction:—

Age when Assured.	Amount Assured.	Annual Premium hitherto paid.	Reduction of 30 per Cent.	Annual Premium now payable.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
20	1000	20 17 6	6 5 3	14 12 3
25	1000	25 0 0	7 10 0	17 10 0
30	1500	43 15 0	13 2 6	30 12 6
40	2000	80 11 8	24 3 6	56 8 2

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IMPORTANT TESTIMONIAL.

St. Paul's Cathedral, 20th Nov., 1849.
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I am, Sir, yours faithfully,
THOMAS FRANCIS, Vicar Choral.

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